

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1353289-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 12

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Page 36 ~ b7D;

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Page 40 ~ b7D;

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Page 181 ~ Referral/Consult;

Page 182 ~ Referral/Consult;

Page 183 ~ Referral/Consult;

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOI/PA
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET
FOI/PA# 1218233-0

Total Deleted Page(s) = 12

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Washington 25, D. C.

May 16, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES

On May 14, 1962, while conversing with [redacted] b6
[redacted] b7C
[redacted] Estes [redacted] discussed an article appearing
in U. S. News and World Report concerning the "Washington
Project." He volunteered at this time that Estes enterprises
carries a ledger account in the name of the "Washington Project"
and at the present time it has a credit balance of some \$10,000.
He stated that it is his understanding that early in the fifties
Estes purchased a number of surplus Government houses in or
around Spokane, Washington, from an unknown individual who had
earlier purchased these same homes. He stated that this is
nothing more than an investment on the part of Estes.

[redacted] stated that he was currently reviewing
their canceled checks and vouchers mentioned in the news article
in this connection and had found that the check in the amount
of \$40,876.14 had been issued in order to pick up a draft
to Associates Investment Company, Lubbock, Texas, which is
a finance company. The check for \$64,139 was issued to pick
up a draft to the Commercial Credit Corporation, Baltimore,
which is also a finance company. The third check, all of
which were dated January 16, 1962, in the amount of \$40,000.00,
represents payment for a cashier's check purchased and forwarded
Commercial Solvents at New York for payment on grain storage
at Hereford, Texas. W

TWC:imc
(6)

2 cc Dept.
5-16-62
TWC:nmc

63 MAY 21 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

REC-79

29-28704-365

5 MAY 18 1962

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: May 16, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

Tolson	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Callahan	✓
Conrad	✓
DeLoach	✓
Evans	✓
Malone	✓
Rosen	✓
Sullivan	✓
Tavel	✓
Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holmes	✓
Gandy	✓

In connection with the investigation in this case, this is to advise that we have gone forward from the initial break of this case wholeheartedly and with the thought in mind that all apparent violations within our jurisdiction should be immediately fully covered. All offices have acted on this basis.

As a matter of fact, the initial break in this case, namely, the arrest of Estes, came as a result of the vigorous and forceful investigation which the FBI initiated. This resulted in the arrest of Billie Sol Estes and his three principal associates, namely: Coleman McSpadden, Ruel Alexander, and Harold Orr.

The initial action taken in this case is the result of the FBI investigation. This resulted in most favorable public reaction and it was significant because there was tremendous local interest on the part of Texas State authorities.

Insofar as restrictions which may have been placed on us by the Department are concerned, we have followed the procedure of driving forward on all apparent violations within our jurisdiction. However, in view of the wide ramifications of the operations of Estes, the numerous regulations of the Department of Agriculture under which he was operating, and the widespread political implications surrounding his entire operations, involving many highly placed Governmental officials, we have, in those instances where it was felt necessary and desirable, posed any questions to the Department for their approval concerning any contemplated action. Insofar as apparent violations are concerned, we have gone forward with reference to these.

In view of the above factors, where matters have been presented to the Department for an opinion, we have pressed for an immediate answer. We will continue to do so.

- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach

AR:mpd (8)

REC-79

29-28704-366

MAY 18 1962

58 MAY 31 1962

Memo to Mr. Belmont from A. Rosen

Insofar as our interview with Estes is concerned, we spoke with him on March 29, 1962, at the time he was apprehended, at which time he declined to furnish any information. He was again contacted as a result of information which was developed by the Bureau concerning the possibility of some gifts by Estes to certain high-ranking officials of the Department of Agriculture, which related to purchases of highly expensive wearing apparel at Neiman-Marcus in Dallas. He declined to be interviewed. Since then, as a result of information which we are developing and inasmuch as we have now obtained access to certain of his records, we believed it desirable to try to interview Estes again, and this position was taken on May 14, 1962. We are also bearing in mind any campaign contributions by Estes. We have since learned that the McClellan Committee investigators have attempted to talk with Estes and according to news reports and information furnished by our El Paso Office, he has not furnished any information of value.

We are also preparing a confirmatory memorandum to the Department of the oral request we received on May 15, 1962, to interview Estes concerning matters other than that for which he has been indicted. (He is presently under indictment for having transported interstate fraudulent securities. These were the false chattel mortgages upon which he obtained loans and concerned the non-existent fertilizer tanks.)

We were requested on May 15, 1962, to talk with Mary K. Jones, the personal secretary to N. Battle Hales of the Department of Agriculture. Jones is the woman who allegedly was railroaded out of the Department of Agriculture because she knew too much. Arrangements were immediately made to talk with her and the appointment was set for 10:00 a.m. May 16, 1962. We were also requested to talk with the Agriculture physician, her personal physician, and any physicians who treated her at D. C. General Hospital. We have talked to the Agriculture Department physician and arrangements have been made to talk with her personal physician today.

[redacted] We spoke with [redacted] of Agriculture yesterday and he is of the opinion she was very much upset at the time, according to the conversations which took place between [redacted]

[redacted] that she be sent to D. C. General inasmuch as he couldn't see her and she obviously needed treatment. This flare-up occurred on April 25, 1962, at the Department of Agriculture and it was on this occasion that [redacted] first examined Miss Jones. We are attempting to obtain information from D. C. General Hospital, the police who took her to D. C. General, and all of the doctors who had any contact with her.

All appears in Miriam Attenberg's column in the Star of today.

Memo to Mr. Belmont from A. Rosen

A memorandum has been prepared reflecting the results of the interview with [redacted] and will go forward to the Department today.

We will continue to give this matter the closest supervision. It is being handled as a special in the field and at the Seat of Government. All information is treated on the basis of highest priority and you will be advised of any pertinent developments.

ADDENDUM: AR:mpd

The Washington Field Office went to the residence of Miss Jones this morning and was met at the door by her sister. The sister advised that she was in bed with a fever and could not be interviewed without the permission of her attorney, N. Battle Hales. Shortly thereafter, Hales contacted the Washington Field Office and advised that he represented Miss Jones as a friend and attorney. He requested that she be left alone and indicated that attempts to interview her further will approach harassment.

In this connection, it is noted that yesterday when we arranged for an appointment to interview Miss Jones at 10:00 a. m. this morning, she was contacted upon her return from the office of [redacted]. She indicated she was extremely fatigued and explained that for the better part of the morning of May 15, 1962, she had been extensively interviewed and had photographs taken by representatives of "Life" magazine and had related in detail to them the full details concerning her commitment to the D. C. General Hospital. She stated that in addition she had just finished an approximately two and a half hour medical examination interrogation by [redacted].

This has been called to the attention of Assistant Attorney General Herbert Miller of the Criminal Division of the Department. No further effort is being made to talk with Miss Jones in view of the above.

*Investigation has moved in on many fronts. b6 b7C
in Dept. of Justice. b6 b7C
General: returning back that doesn't believe. H*

*5/17/62
Handled by separate memo.
WSD*

Obs R JHM WSD

I cannot stress too strongly need to move swiftly & penetratively in all aspects of this case. Reporter had interviewed Jones before we tried to

gic

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: May 16, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

Tolson ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Evans ☒
 Malone ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holmes ☒
 Gandy ☒

With regard to the Bureau's instructions to the El Paso Office of 5/15/62 that steps be taken to interview Billie Sol Estes concerning matters other than those for which he is presently under indictment, SAC, El Paso now advises that he has been in contact with Mr. Hume Cofer of the law firm of Cofer and Cofer, Austin, Texas, which represents Billie Sol Estes of record. This morning Mr. Hume Cofer advised that the interview of Estes at this time had been thoroughly considered by that firm and it had been decided not to allow an interview of Estes on any subjects at this time.

Mr. Hume ^{COFER} indicated that he would be in Pecos for a creditors' meeting on 5/23/62 and would be in touch with our SAC at that time. We will follow with the El Paso Office for any further developments along this line. Department being advised.

1 - Mr. DeLoach
 1 - Mr. Evans

WBW:mal:jh
 (8)

*It looks as if we
 didn't move as soon
 as we should have.*

REC-72

29-28704-367

5 MAY 18 1962

146
 50 MAY 23 1962

ST-108

5/17/62

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC, EL PASO

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

HILLIE SOL ESTES, INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN
PROPERTY DASH BRIBERY.

ITEMS IN THE PRESS STATE THAT FIVE POINT TWO MILLION
BUSHELS OF WHEAT HAVE BEEN MOVED INTO ESTES OWN ELEVATORS
FROM KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA AND ALABAMA AT A COST TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF OVER FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

EL PASO INITIATE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE ANY POSSIBILITY
BRIBERY OR FAVORITISM AND IF ABOVE STATEMENT IS TRUE.

NOTE: Info was reported as coming from Representative
Bob Dole (Republican-Kansas), page A1 of the
"Washington Post" and "Times Herald," 5/17/62.

EX - 102

REC-79 29-28704-368

MAY 18 1962

ENCLOSURE

TWC:lmc
(3)

Tolson _____
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Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE

MAY 21 1962

2507

BILLIE SOL ESTES
ITSP - BRIBERY

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone *BM* _____
Rosen *BR* _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Business and Bank Data Ordered

Estes Subpoenaed by Senate Unit

By Roy McGhee

United Press International

Senate investigators have subpoenaed Billie Sol Estes and numerous business records for an extensive inquiry into dealings that led to the Texan's indictment for fraud.

This was disclosed yesterday as Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman assured members of the House Agriculture Committee that he would be willing to undergo questioning on the Estes affair in good time. That Committee has not decided yet, however, whether it will hold an investigation.

A spokesman for the Senate's Permanent Investigating Subcommittee, which is expected to take up the case in three or four weeks, said the subpoena was served on Estes in Texas Sunday. No appearance date was set.

The spokesman said investigators also had ordered Estes' personal business records and data on about 40 bank accounts, along with the

Agriculture Department's records on the case.

A number of Subcommittee investigators are in Texas delving into Estes' dealings, the spokesman said. But he declined to say whether any other witnesses had been subpoenaed.

Four Government officials have lost their jobs because of disclosures made so far in the Estes case. The latest was former Assistant Secretary of Agriculture James T. Ralph, fired by Freeman Tuesday night.

Freeman said he took the action because of testimony at a Texas court of inquiry, and because the Department of Justice said some of Ralph's long-distance telephone calls had been charged to Estes' credit account.

Meanwhile, Rep. B. F. Fisk (D-Calif.) said in an interview that Freeman picked Ralph as his assistant last year although the California delegation had

unanimously endorsed another Californian, Lionel Steinberg.

"The delegation did not recommend Ralph," Sisk said, "but we acquiesced in his appointment when it became clear Freeman would not appoint Steinberg."

In other developments yesterday:

Rep. H. Carl Anderson (R-Minn.) told the House that his sale of \$4000 in coal mine stock to Estes had nothing to do with the Texan's other affairs. "At no time did he ask favors," the Congressman said.

Rep. Bob Dole (R-Kan.), who has accused the Agriculture Department of favoritism toward Estes, told Freeman in a letter that he had been informed that 5.2 million bushels of wheat had been moved into Estes-owned elevators from Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska and Colorado.

Dole said rough estimates indicate the moves may have cost the Government \$500,000 to \$750,000.

Nixon Compares Ralph Firing to Teapot Dome

LOS ANGELES, May 16 (UPI)—Former Vice President Richard M. Nixon said last night that the firing of Department of Agriculture official James T. Ralph has created "the biggest national scandal since Teapot Dome."

Ralph, a former member of Gov. Edmund G. Brown's administration, was fired yes-

The Washington Post and Times Herald *A-1*
The Washington Daily News _____
The Evening Star _____
New York Herald Tribune _____
New York Journal-American _____
New York Mirror _____
New York Daily News _____
New York Post _____
The New York Times _____
The Worker _____
The New Leader _____
The Wall Street Journal _____
The National Observer _____
Date *5-17-62*

29-28704-368

ENCLOSURE

terday by U. S. Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman for being involved with the recently indicated Texas agriculture magnate Billie Sol Estes.

Nixon, a candidate for the Republican gubernatorial nomination, said in a prepared statement, "An alumnus of Pat Brown's college of political hacks has touched off the biggest national scandal since Teapot Dome."

Ralph was Brown's former State Director of Agriculture.

"This is the caliber of man to whom Brown entrusted the future of California agriculture," said Nixon. "And this is the sort of rogue that Brown wished off on the national Government as a representative of our State."

"Ralph is typical of the bad judgment Brown has shown in choosing the people to run the biggest state government in America."

[Brown issued this comment on the Nixon statement, the Associated Press reported:

"Mr. Ralph was Director of Agriculture in California for just 21 days. His service in my administration was as a respected career technician in agricultural marketing."

"I could not and would not condone Mr. Ralph's reputed action in Washington. But I am certainly not going to join Mr. Nixon in his characteristically vicious slugging after the bell."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE *MC*

URGENT 5-17-62 2-55 PM RAC
TO SAC EL PASO
FROM DIRECTOR 1P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN
PROPERTY DASH BRIBERY.

ITEMS IN THE PRESS STATE THAT FIVE POINT TWO MILLION
BUSHEL OF WHEAT HAVE BEEN MOVED INTO ESTES OWN ELEVATORS
FROM KANSAS, MISSOURI, NEBRASKA AND ALABAMA AT A COST TO THE
GOVERNMENT OF OVER FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS.

EL PASO INITIATE INVESTIGATION TO DETERMINE ANY POSSIBILITY
BRIBERY OR FAVORITISM AND IF ABOVE STATEMENT IS TRUE.

END AND ACK PLS

OK FBI EP JPM

TU DISC

T

F B I

Date: 5/17/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Evans _____
Mr. Malone _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

BILLIE SOL ESTES; et al
ITSP; BRIBERY; COI
(OO: DL)

SUMMARY AIRTEL

CHARLES S. MURPHY, Under Secretary of Agriculture, today advised he was responsible for all decisions in the pooled cotton allotment program and based on information at his disposal, he approved and made the appointment of ESTES to the Cotton Advisory Committee in July, 1961. LHM being submitted this date.

Agriculture officials advised today all records for transfers of cotton allotments and records of regular allotments are located in the County and States Offices of the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS). Agriculture maintains in headquarters only summaries which contain no detail concerning individual cotton farms. The various State and County Offices of ASCS also have copies of these summaries. State Office records show all farms sold by ESTES to displaced farmers and at time of transfer of the cotton allotments. Copies of pertinent material concerning cotton allotments being obtained late today or early tomorrow following which appropriate leads will be set forth for auxiliary offices.

3-Bureau
1-Dallas (58-188) (Info)
2-WFO

FWA:MJB
(6)

AIRTEL

C. C. Wick

REC-72 29-28704-369
MAY 18 1962

Approved: MAY 21 1962
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

WFO 87-8242

Senator JOHN J. WILLIAMS, Delaware, would not provide name of psychiatrist who examined MARY K. JONES, former secretary to N. BATTLE HALES, nor would he furnish any information which might lead to the identity of the psychiatrist.

JERRY R. HOLLEMAN, recently resigned Assistant Secretary of Labor, who has admitted accepting \$1,000 from ESTES, was to contact WFO today to arrange for appropriate interview of him. When he did not make this contact, a check at his office disclosed he had left Washington, D.C., for Texas, early this morning and is not expected to return until late 5/20/62 or early 5/21/62. Further efforts being made locally to determine his whereabouts in order that he may be interviewed promptly.

It is noted that Bureau has previously been informed earlier today concerning information provided by [redacted] wherein he pointed out all grain payments to ESTES were made during the EISENHOWER Administration.

b6
b7C

[redacted] Dr. JAMES T. RALPH, was interviewed today. However, she has pertinent records and information at her residence which she will bring in for further interview tomorrow.

b6
b7C

It is also noted that bank records of WILLIAM MORRIS at National Capital Bank, Washington, D.C., were obtained late this afternoon following service of a subpoena on the bank and these records were turned over to the Bureau. One Photostat copy of records maintained at WFO.

[redacted]
[redacted] USDA, provided information relative to taking MARY K. JONES from her office to the Health Unit, USDA, on 4/25/62. It was her opinion that Miss JONES was definitely mentally disturbed.

b6
b7C

[redacted] National Capital Bank, advised that he does not have available personnel to locate deposit tickets and Recordak film of checks contained in these deposits. He informed that he would be glad to make available the bank records for Agents to locate the desired material.

WFO 87-8242

WFO will review Photostat of ledger for the account of WILLIAM E. MORRIS and will thereafter review records of this bank relating to deposit tickets and checks that appear to be pertinent to this investigation.

Certified Photostat copy of commitment order signed by Judge CURRAN on other movement orders obtained from Clerk, U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia this date. Two Photostat copies of the above were furnished to the Bureau this date and one copy was furnished to AUSA [REDACTED] WFO is maintaining certified copy in its file [REDACTED]

b6
b7c

ESTES REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

FBI

Date: 5/17/62

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Evans _____
Mr. Malone _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242)

BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka, et al
ITSP; BRIBERY; COI
(OO:DL)

ReWFOairtel to the Bureau 5/16/62.

Enclosed herewith are two letterhead memos (four copies each) to the Bureau and one copy each to Dallas containing results of interviews on 5/17/62, with Senator JOHN H. WILLIAMS and with N. BATTLE HALES.

The interview of Senator JOHN J. WILLIAMS (Delaware), set forth in the enclosed letterhead memo was conducted by SAs EUGENE W. WHITWAM and [redacted] WILLIAMS said he was "mad" about the way MISS JONES had been treated at the USDA and the way the Administration and USDA were handling the ESTES matter. On several occasions during the interview Senator WILLIAMS apologized for his lack of restraint in controlling his temper stating he did not want the Agents to feel that his actions were any reflection upon the Bureau's investigation of the case or the interviewing Agents and stated he knew the FBI was doing a proper conscientious job in its investigation.

Throughout the interview he referred to what he had read in the "Daily News", "Evening Star" and other published sources. During the interview he had his secretary bring him a folder which appeared to contain a considerable number of clippings from newspapers and appeared to be perusing these as he talked about the USDA's handling of Miss JONES' situation and how they prevented Mr. HALES from his access to records which were needed by him to furnish full information on the ESTES case.

ENCLOSURE

- 4 - Bureau (Enc. 8)
- 2 - Dallas (58-188) (Enc. 2) (AM)
- 2 - WFO

GLM:mfd

(8)

C. C. Wick

AIRTEL

REC-79

29-28704-370

MAY 18 1962

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

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Per _____

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b7C

WFO 87-8242

The interview of N. BATTLE HALES was conducted telephonically on 5/17/62, by SA ANDREW J. SHANNON. As pointed out in previous communication 5/16/62, to the Bureau, WFO does not anticipate interviewing Miss JONES in the presence of HALES, UACB.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
May 17, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN
PROPERTY; BRIBERY; CONFLICT OF
INTEREST

On May 17, 1962, Senator John J. Williams (Delaware) was interviewed to ascertain the identity of a doctor who may have examined Agriculture Department employee Mary K. Jones, and according to newspaper reports, Senator Williams had indicated it was his understanding that the examining doctor found nothing wrong with her. *DE*

Senator Williams said he would not disclose the identity of the doctor nor disclose how he learned of the doctor's identity and results of the examination. He said the reason for his declining to furnish such information was that he believed the Department of Agriculture and the Administration were more concerned with attempting to prove Miss Jones to be of unsound mind than getting the facts on the Estes matter. He feels she was railroaded into a hospital, that her superior N. Battle Hales was prevented from having access to Department of Agriculture files in order that he could furnish information to show that the Department of Agriculture knew a long time ago that illegal activity was involved in the Estes allotment transfers.

He said according to press releases in "The Evening Star" newspaper of May 7, 1962, and May 16, 1962, there had been a complete reversal by District of Columbia General Hospital physicians as to the status of Miss Jones' mental condition. He pointed out it was obvious to him that they (the physicians at District of Columbia Hospital) had lied when in one instance they declared her to be insane and next state she is of sound mind.

He was asked whether the doctor, whose identity he did not disclose, was associated with the Department of Agriculture, District of Columbia General Hospital, or had been anyone named in any press article and whether or not the doctor is a psychiatrist. Senator Williams stated the doctor

29-28704-370

ENCLOSURE

①

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

he has in mind is a private psychiatrist and has not, to his knowledge, been named in any newspaper in connection with the Estes case and is not affiliated with the Department of Agriculture or the District of Columbia General Hospital.

He was asked whether this psychiatrist had examined Miss Jones since she had been taken to District of Columbia General Hospital. He stated the examination took place afterwards but again declined to disclose the psychiatrist's identity. He also declined to name any source that the interviewing Agents could contact for the purpose of further establishing the psychiatrist's identity. He was asked whether he would possibly be willing to furnish the desired information at a future date. He stated "it will come out", but declined to further elaborate as to when and by what means this information would be made known.

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency. ✓



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
May 17, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN
PROPERTY; BRIBERY; CONFLICT OF
INTEREST

On May 17, 1962, Mr. N. Battle Hales was telephonically contacted in an effort to ascertain the identity of a doctor who may have examined Agriculture Department employee Mary K. Jones, other than those physicians affiliated with the Department of Agriculture and the District of Columbia General Hospital. Hales said Miss Mary K. Jones on May 7, 1962, saw Dr. Vincent J. Daly, a psychiatrist whose office was on Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. (Telephone directory shows Dr. Daly, 3221 Connecticut Avenue, N. W.)

Hales stated that Special Agents of the FBI could contact Dr. Daly, however, permission would have to be obtained from Miss Jones before the Doctor would be able to make known results of his May 7, 1962, examination. Hales said Daly had made "voice tapes" of Miss Jones and had taken pictures of her showing bruises on her body resulting from her commitment to the District of Columbia General Hospital.

He stated that Senator John J. Williams (Delaware) had been to Dr. Daly's office and had listened to the tapes.

Hales stated he would contact Miss Jones and determine whether she would give her permission for Dr. Daly to disclose the results of his examination to Agents of the FBI.

He recontacted the Washington Field Office of the FBI advising that Miss Jones was then telephoning her doctor advising him that he had her permission to disclose the results of her examination to the FBI.

In regard to an interview with Miss Jones, Hales stated that she was having a cancer test made today (May 17, 1962) and would not be available for interview until Friday, May 18, 1962. He added that he as an attorney and friend of Miss Jones would make her available for interview but desired to be present at such interview.

29-28704-370

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distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE

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Washington 25, D. C.

May 17, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES

Dr. James T. Ralph, former Assistant Secretary, U. S. Department of Agriculture, appeared at Washington Field Office on May 16, 1962, and read, corrected and signed statement incorporating results of interview held with him on May 14, 1962, at Washington Field.

Dr. Ralph made certain corrections and deletions from the statement, which are set forth as follows:

He deleted from the statement the following; that he may have had reason to believe that the Telephone Credit Card Number furnished to him by his assistant, William E. Morris, belonged to Billie Sol Estes.

He also stated that after his interview on May 14, 1962, he contacted Bill Orrick, an Assistant Attorney General in the U. S. Department of Justice, and Orrick told him that he had not given him a ticket to the Democratic Party dinner on January 20, 1962. Dr. Ralph stated he received a third ticket to this dinner from another Californian in Washington, D. C. whom he could not now recall.

EX - 102

REC-79

29-28704-371

5 MAY 18 1962

GEB:imc
(5)

Ice Dept. (Criminal Div.)
5-17-62 G.B. inc

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

63 MAY 1 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

F B I

Date: 5/17/62

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

may
 BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL.
 BRIBERY; CONFLICT OF INTEREST
 (OO:DL)

Enclosed for information of the Bureau are four
 copies of a letterhead memorandum which is self-explanatory.
 Also enclosed is one copy each of this memorandum for Dallas
 and El Paso.

Interview mentioned in letterhead memorandum
 was conducted by SAs [redacted] and [redacted]

4 ENCLOSURE ESTES REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

- 3- Bureau (Enc.4)
- 1- Dallas (Enc.1) (58-188) (Info) (AM)
- 1- El Paso (29-351) (Enc.1) (Info) (AM)
- 2- WFO

CMG:dab
 (7)

AIRTEL

C. C. Wick

REC-79

29-28704-372

MAY 18 1962

Approved: 144

Sent _____ M Per _____

53 MAY 22 1962

Special Agent in Charge

b6
b7C



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
May 17, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL.
BRIBERY; CONFLICT OF INTEREST

On May 17, 1962, [redacted]

b6
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[redacted] Virginia, furnished the following information under oath to Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation:

He has been the [redacted] Dominion Towers since this building was erected approximately four years ago. He stated Miss Mary K. Jones moved into this apartment building approximately two years ago and currently resides in Apartment 118. [redacted] said that since Miss Jones moved into this apartment building, he had known her and has had periodic contact with her through answering maintenance complaints in her apartment. He has not socialized with Miss Jones other than in carrying on his duties as [redacted] of this building. He stated that during the entire period he has known Miss Jones, she has been a polite person who appeared normal in every respect.

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[redacted] said that he observed an article in a Washington, D.C., newspaper on about April 24, 1962, indicating that Miss Jones had been committed to District of Columbia (D.C.) General Hospital.

b6
b7C

[redacted] said that the day before he saw the above article in the newspaper concerning Miss Jones' commitment to D.C. General Hospital, he was at the desk of Dominion Towers, during the morning, [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] stated that Miss Jones was emotionally upset. At this time, [redacted] mentioned that she was attempting to obtain the name and telephone number of her

29-28704-372

ENCLOSURE

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL.

sister living in North Carolina. [] did not explain what had caused Miss Jones to become upset but did indicate she had been crying. [] mentioned to [] that Miss Jones was employed by the Department of Agriculture.

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[] said that he recalled that a new tenant residing in [] of this building, [] was at that time employed at the Department of Agriculture. [] said that on his own initiative he proceeded to the apartment of [] and spoke directly to him and said that Miss Jones, who was a fellow employee at the Department of Agriculture, and who lived in this building, had become emotionally upset and the apartment manager was attempting to obtain the name and telephone number of a relative. [] inquired of [] as to whom to contact at the Department of Agriculture to obtain this information. According to [] indicated he did not know Miss Jones, but furnished [] with the telephone number of the Personnel Officer in the Department of Agriculture. [] then proceeded to furnish this telephone number to [] who called the Department of Agriculture Personnel Office and asked for information concerning the address of a relative. [] recalled that [] mentioned that the Department of Agriculture inquired as to the name of Miss Jones' doctor and indicated that they would handle the matter.

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b7C

[] said that he did not see Miss Jones during the morning of April 24, 1962; however, on the afternoon of this date, someone on the desk at Dominion Towers requested that he go to Miss Jones' apartment and deliver a message to [] who was visiting Miss Jones. Thereafter, [] proceeded to Miss Jones' apartment and saw her briefly. At this time, Miss Jones appeared normal in her behavior to [] said he has not seen Miss Jones since the above contact.

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At the initiation of this interview, [] was advised that he did not have to make a statement, that any statement he did make could be used in a court of law, and of his right to an attorney.

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b7C

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

F B I

Date: 5/18/62

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

0
 BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka et al
 ATSP; BRIBERY; COI
 (OO:DL)

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies and for DL one copy of a letterhead memo dated and captioned as above, concerning the interview of Dr. VINCENT J. DALY, Psychoanalyst, 3221 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., conducted this date by SAS [redacted]

Dr. DALY furnished an undeveloped roll of Kodachrome film. He said that the last three or four exposures on this roll were made by him in the presence of his wife of Miss MARY K. JONES. The pictures were taken for the purpose of illustrating the bruises appearing on Miss JONES on 5/7/62. Dr. DALY stated that he could not attest as to the reason for the bruises.

The above roll of film is being submitted to the FBI Laboratory for development.

ENCLOSURE

4
 4-Bureau (Encs-4)
 1-Dallas (58-188) (Enc-1) (Info)
 2-WFO

JJM/RWD:ljd
 (7)

AIRTEL

C. C. Wick

Approved: _____

Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

53 MAY 22 1962

b6
b7c29-28704-373
REC-12
5 MAY 18 1962
WFO
reinstated
to interview
magistrate
6-1962



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

Washington 25, D. C.
May 18, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY
CONFLICT OF INTEREST
BRIBERY

On May 17, 1962, Doctor Vincent J. ~~Daly~~, Psychoanalyst, 3221 Connecticut Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., furnished the following information to Special Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (SAs of the FBI), under oath:

Doctor Daly advised that on the evening of May 6, 1962, he received a telephone call from Doctor Benjamin Karpman, Washington, D. C., former Chief Psychiatrist at St. Elizabeths Hospital, Washington, D. C. Doctor Karpman said "I want you to see somebody for me and for you to tell me what you think". Doctor Karpman advised that somebody from some department of government would call Doctor Daly. Shortly thereafter Doctor Daly received a telephone call from Mr. N. Battle Hales and arrangements were made for Doctor Daly to see Miss Mary K. Jones the following day.

Doctor Daly advised that on the afternoon of May 7, 1962, Miss Mary K. Jones, 1201 South Courthouse Road, Arlington, Virginia, appeared at his office along with Mr. Hales and several others. Doctor Daly said he believes the others were members of her family. Dr. Daly said he interviewed Miss Jones at this time and recorded the entire conversation on a tape. As a part of this interview he used the standard examination from the Mental Examiners Handbook. Doctor Daly made available to the SAs statements set forth hereafter which related to his interview of Miss Jones:

"Washington, D. C.
May 17, 1962

"S T A T E M E N T

"This is to certify that I am the president of the D. C. Association of Medical Psychologists, the vice president of the American Association for Social Psychiatry, and the vice president of the American Society of Psychoanalysts. I

29-28704-373

ENCLOSURE

②

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

further certify that on the indirect referral of the late Dr. Benjamin Karpman I saw Miss Mary K. Jones on May 7, 1962. I have before me a release in Miss Jones' own handwriting authorizing me to give information to the Congress of the United States or to the press.

"Miss Jones came to my office accompanied by Mr. Hales and several members of her family. I do not pretend that I have her any psychiatric examination. I talked with her and made a record of the interview. This interview is on tape and may be heard by anyone. When I saw the patient, which was approximately three (3) hours after her discharge from D. C. General Hospital, she was oriented as to person, place, and time, neat in her personal appearance, logical in her conversation, and showed no evidence of delusions or hallucinations. I used the standard examination from the Mental Examiners Handbook which is accepted in both the United States and England. I certify that (and the tape will support me) that Miss Jones was able to answer logically and intelligently all the questions put to her. She was able to recall several digits both in sequence and in reverse order. She was able to answer questions on general information which would be expected of a normal individual. She informed me that she did not feel anyone was persecuting her and I could see no ideas of reference.

"I played Miss Jones' tape to Dr. Benjamin Karpman, who expired this morning. I attached to this statement and make a part of it as though quoted herein the witnessed statements of the Reverend William Lloyd Goodrich, former chaplain to the President of the United States [redacted] which would tend to sustain my reference to Dr. Karpman's consultation.

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"I could see nothing in Miss Jones' behavior which would indicate that she was violent or a menace to society. I do not know Miss Jones' condition upon her admission to D. C. General Hospital and will make no comment on it. I do know that Miss Jones in the presence of my secretary and the passing presence of a bystander did not appear to be violent, disoriented, or a danger to herself or others. I have at the present time several persons who are employed in much higher government positions than Miss Joens whom I would consider more distraught and in need of psychiatric care than Miss Jones.

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

"I received no fee from Miss Jones, nor did I ask for one. I saw her only as a personal courtesy to Dr. Karpman who stated that he was interested in the case.

"(signed) Vincent J. Daly"

"Washington, D. C.
May 17, 1962

S T A T E M E N T

"I, the Reverend William Lloyd Goodrich, certify that I am the pastor of St. James Anglo-Catholic Church in Washington, D. C. I further certify that at one time I was the Chaplain to the Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States.

"Due to the fact that I have had several personal duties I cannot recall the exact dates involved in this statement. I have known Dr. Benjamin Karpman, who expired this morning, for several years. Within the past few days I saw and talked with Dr. Karpman in Dr. Daly's office at 3221 Connecticut Avenue, N. W. At that time both Dr. Karpman and I listened to a tape concerning a Miss Jones who is personally involved in controversy with the Department of Agriculture. After hearing the tape Dr. Karpman stated in my presence that the subject of the tape was in his opinion not mentally ill. He further warned Dr. Daly that he (Dr. Daly) could expect only difficulties and smears if he supported this young woman. He further stated that he (Dr. Karpman) would testify that Miss Jones could not have been psychotic and make a tape of this kind.

"(signed) William Lloyd Goodrich

"(Rev.) William Lloyd Goodrich

"Witnessed:

"(signed)

"(signed)



Wash DC

b6
b7C

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

"Washington, D. C.
May 17, 1962

"S T A T E M E N T

"This is to certify that I am personally acquainted with Dr. Benjamin Karpman who expired this morning and Dr. Vincent J. Daly of 3221 Connecticut Avenue, N. W. I have often talked with Dr. Karpman concerning Dr. Daly and cases in which they were both interested. I was a former analytic student of Dr. Karpman for training analysis. Previously I had worked with and taken a partial training analysis with [redacted] My work for the American Association for Social Psychiatry brought me into constant contact with Dr. Karpman. I was instrumental in his receiving the Merrill Moore Award of the association.

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b7C

"I further certify that a few days ago I met Dr. Benjamin Karpman in the Giant Food Store. At this time Dr. Karpman mentioned several things to me. He stated emphatically that he had heard a tape which Dr. Daly had recorded on a Miss Jones who was then being discussed in the newspapers. He stated, and I can definitely recall, that after hearing the tape he was convinced that Miss Jones was not psychotic and that she had been a victim of circumstances. He further stated that Dr. Daly would probably get in trouble because he had supported Miss Jones.

"(signed) [redacted]

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b7C

[redacted] D. C.

"Witness:

(signed) [redacted]

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b7C

Doctor Daly also furnished a copy of a letter written by him to Miss Jones dated May 11, 1962, which is as follows:

"May 11, 1962

"Miss Mary K. Jones
1201 South Courthouse Road
Arlington, Virginia

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

"Dear Miss Jones:

"I sincerely hope that you are now feeling better and recovered from your experience.

"I feel that after an experience such as your, one should consult an attorney concerning their legal position. This is not necessarily for the purpose of starting litigation, but rather to protect your legal position. I further feel that your attorney should be one who is not simultaneously acting for Mr. Hales. This is no reflection on his attorney, and the man who represented you at the hearing is a well-qualified and ethical practitioner.

"If you do not have a personal family attorney, I would suggest that you consult [redacted]

[redacted] are known to me as ethical and competent attorneys, and I feel confident that they would see you for one session without fee to advise you on your legal rights in your present situation. This recommendation is in no way to be considered as an attempt to require you to contact [redacted] I am primarily interested in seeing that your legal rights are protected, and I know that [redacted] would do so. If you prefer any other member of the Bar that is your privilege.

"With my very best personal regards, I remain

"Sincerely yours,

"(signed)

"VJD:feh

CC: [redacted]

Doctor Daly advised that in his opinion, as of May 7, 1962, he did not believe Miss Jones to be suffering from any mental disorder. He stated May 7, 1962, was the first and only contact he has had with Miss Jones. Dr. Daly

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

further advised that he cannot attest to the mental condition of Miss Mary K. Jones before or after the date May 7, 1962. However, he pointed out that his interview with Miss Jones took place approximately three hours subsequent to her discharge from the D. C. General Hospital.

Doctor Daly advised that on May 17, 1962, Senator John J. Williams of Delaware was furnished copies of the statements previously set forth herein which related to his interview with Miss Jones. Doctor Daly said Senator Williams' secretary whose name he is unable to recall appeared at his office for the statements and she also listened to the tape of the interview between Miss Jones and Doctor Daly. Doctor Daly said that in view of the death of Doctor Benjamin Karpman, he desired to have another opinion on the recorded interview of Miss Jones. He said he telephoned Doctor Edward C. Mazique, 1801 9th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., who Doctor Daly stated is the former President of the National Medical Society. He said he played the tape over the telephone for Doctor Mazique. After the tape was completed, he related that Senator Williams' secretary conferred over the telephone with Doctor Mazique. The secretary subsequently advised Doctor Daly that Doctor Mazique concurred with the opinion of Doctor Daly in this matter.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

REC-79 29-28704-374

May 13, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL.



b6
b7C
b7D

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of any kind but is the property of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and it is a loan to your agency. It and/or its contents are not to be disseminated outside your agency.

Enclosures (2)

DJG:vhm
(5)

29-28704

NOTE: Information set forth was obtained from El Paso letter 5-15-62 (EP file 58-59).

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Handwritten notes:
1-2-62 (at Red Hat)
5-15-62
5-18-62

Handwritten initials: JH

53 MAY 22 1962 TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI. AMSD.

DATE: May 15, 1962.

FROM : SAC, EL PASO 58-59

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL.
ITSP - BRIBERY.

OO Dallas.

ATT: MR. WM. WELTE; Gen. Investigative
Division.

2- Bureau AMSD Encl. 1-15
 1- Dallas AMSD. Encl. 2-1
 1- El Paso AMSD Encl. 2-1

ENCLOSURE

RCD.

EX - 102

REC-79

29-28704-374
 18
 16 MAY 16 1962

Mem to Dept
 via LHM - 0-6
 5-18-62
 DSG/dmm

W. J. Welte
 Conf
 [Signature]

b6
 b7C
 b7D

EX - 102

ST
esa 29-28704-375

May 18, 1962

REC-19

**BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION
OF STOLEN PROPERTY;
BRIBERY**

Information was obtained by our Kansas City Office on May 9, 1962, from the Money Order Center, United States Post Office Department, 601 Hardesty, Kansas City, Missouri, that during the period January 5, 1961, through March, 1962, there were an estimated 38,000 postal money orders (PMO's) issued by the Post Office Department, Pecos, Texas. There are approximately one million paid PMO's received in that Department daily and currently the Department has about a sixty-day backlog of orders that have not been filed.

Money orders received which were issued originally by the Post Office Department, Pecos, Texas, during the period January, 1961, to March, 1962, were reviewed and the following PMO's were located:

<u>Money Order Number</u>	<u>Issued To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-49,535,337	George Krutilek	\$100.00
11-49,535,338	George Krutilek	\$100.00
11-49,535,339	James T. Ralph	\$100.00
11-49,535,340	Bill Morris	\$100.00
11-49,535,341	Bill Morris	\$100.00
11-49,535,342	James T. Ralph	\$100.00

All of the above listed United States Postal Money Orders were purchased on December 22, 1961, at Pecos, Texas, by Billie Sol Estes, Box 1052, Pecos, Texas.

Original and one to RAO Crim. by 0-6D this date (attention [redacted])

NOTE:

Information set forth was obtained from KC airtel dated 5/10/62 (KC file 58-194) and EP airtel dated 5/9/62 (EP file 58-59).

DJG:pab

(6)
3 MAY 21 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

2 cc sent
5/18/62
5/18/62
5/18/62

b6
b7c

BILLIE SOL ESTES

The endorsements on both money orders issued to George Krutilek show "Pay to First National Bank, George Krutilek", and were both received at the First National Bank, Pecos, Texas, on December 22, 1961. The significance of the issuance of these two PMO's to Krutilek is unknown to the Kansas City Office.

PMO 11-49,535,339 is first endorsed "Pay to Treasurer Demo Nat'l Committee James T. Ralph" and also contains the endorsement "Pay to the order of the Democratic National Committee Matthew H. McCloskey" and contains the further endorsement "Democratic National Committee Pay to the order of the American Security and Trust Company for credit to the account of Democratic National Committee Regular Account." This PMO shows same was received by the American Security and Trust Company, Washington, D. C., under date of January 16, 1962.

PMO 11-49,535,340 is first endorsed "Pay to Demo. Natl. Committee Bill Morris" and also contains the endorsement "Democratic National Committee Pay to the order of the American Security and Trust Company for credit to the account of Democratic National Committee Regular Account." This PMO shows same was received by the American Security and Trust Company on January 16, 1962.

PMO 11-49,535,341 is first endorsed to "Pay to Democratic National Com. Bill Morris" and also contains a second endorsement identical to that listed under PMO 11-49,535,340. This PMO shows same was received by the American Security and Trust Company on January 16, 1962.

PMO 11-49,535,342 is first endorsed "Pay to Roger Kent Chairman, Democratic Party of California James T. Ralph" and is also endorsed "Pay to the order of the Gov. Brown dinner committee Roger Kent, Chairman Democratic Party of California." This PMO was deposited in the Bank of America, San Francisco, Calif., date not legible.

BILLIE SOL ESTES

In addition to the above, the following PMO's were located during this review. All of these were issued by [redacted] Texas, to [redacted] and all were in the amount of \$100.00.

b6
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Money Order Number

Date Purchased

11-49,534,087
11-49,534,088
11-49,534,089
11-49,535,354

12/4/61
12/4/61
12/4/61
12/22/61

All are endorsed [redacted]

[redacted] Arizona, except for 11-49,535,354, which does not list a city but does list in addition to the address on [redacted]

It is not known to the Kansas City Office if [redacted] Billie Sol Estes.

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b7C

It was ascertained at the United States Post Office Pecos, Texas, that the PMO stubs show that PMO's #11-49,535,337 through and including #11-49,535,342 were all issued on December 21, 1961, and each was issued in the amount of \$100.00.

The estimated number of PMO's issued by the Pecos Post Office varies between 25,000 and 30,000 per year. It was further ascertained that 621,795 PMO's were issued by the El Paso Post Office and its branches between January 1, 1961, and May 7, 1962, including those which may have been spoiled.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

g1

F B I

Date: 5/10/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIR TEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, KANSAS CITY (58-194) (P)

BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka, ETAL
BRIBERY; COI
Dallas - 00

Re Washington Field Office airtel to Director 5/4/62.

On May 9, 1962, [redacted]
[redacted] U. S. Post Office Department, 601 Hardesty, Kansas City, Missouri (PROTECT IDENTITY [redacted]) advised that during the period January 5, 1961 through March 1962 he would estimate that about 38,000 postal money orders were issued by Post Office Department, Pecos, Texas. [redacted] advised that about one million paid postal money orders (PMO's) are received in his Department daily and his Department currently has about a 60 day backlog of such orders that have not been filed. He made available for review paid money orders forwarded to his Department which were originally issued by the Post Office Dept., Pecos, Texas, covering the period January 1961 to March 1962. A review of these money orders has commenced and the following PMO's have been located:

<u>Money Order Number</u>	<u>Issued To</u>	<u>Amount</u>
11-49,535,337	GEORGE KRUTILEK	\$100.00
11-49,535,338	GEORGE KRUTILEK	\$100.00
11-49,535,339	JAMES T. RALPH	\$100.00
11-49535,340	BILL MORRIS	\$100.00
11-49,535,341	BILL MORRIS	\$100.00
11-49,535,342	JAMES T. RALPH	\$100.00

3 - Bureau (AM)
2 - El Paso (29-351) (AM)
3 - Dallas (58-188) (enc. 9) (AM)
1 - Wash. Field (87-8242) (info)
2 - Kansas City

WJQ/hmg C C Wick
(11)

29-28704-375
13 MAY 13 1962
18

Approved: [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M

Per _____

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b7C
b7D

KC 58-194

All of the above listed United States Postal Money Orders were purchased on December 22, 1961 at Pecos, Texas, by BILLIE SOL ESTES, Box 1052, Pecos, Texas.

The endorsements on both money orders issued to GEORGE KRUTILEK show "Pay to First National Bank, George Krutilek", and were both received at the First National Bank, Pecos, Texas, on December 22, 1961. The significance of the issuance of these two PMO's to KRUTILEK is unknown to the Kansas City Office.

PMO 11-49,535,339 is first endorsed "Pay to Treasurer Demo Nat'l Committee James T. Ralph" and also contains the endorsement "Pay to the order of the Democratic National Committee [redacted] and contains the further endorsement "Democratic National Committee Pay to the order of the American Security and Trust Company for credit to the account of Democratic National Committee Regular Account". This PMO shows same was received by the American Security and Trust Company, Washington, D. C., under date of January 16, 1962.

b6
b7C

PMO 11-49,535,340 is first endorsed "Pay to Demo. Natl. Committee Bill Morris" and also contains the endorsement "Democratic National Committee Pay to the order of the American Security and Trust Company for credit to the account of Democratic National Committee Regular Account." This PMO shows same was received by the American Security and Trust Company on January 16, 1962.

PMO 11-49,535,341 is first endorsed to "Pay to Democratic National Com. Bill Morris" and also contains a second endorsement identical to that listed under PMO 11-49,535,340. This PMO shows same was received by the American Security and Trust Company on January 16, 1962.

PMO 11-49,535,342 is first endorsed "Pay to Roger Kent Chairman, Democratic Party of California James T. Ralph" and is also endorsed "Pay to the order of the Gov. Brown dinner committee Roger Kent, Chairman Democratic Party of California". This PMO was deposited in the Bank of America, San Francisco, Calif., date not legible.

In addition to the above, the following PMOS were

KC 58-194

located during this review. All of these were issued by [redacted] Texas, to [redacted] and all were in the amount of \$100.00.

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<u>Money Order Number</u>	<u>Date Purchased</u>
11-49,534,087	12/4/61
11-49,534,088	12/4/61
11-49,534,089	12/4/61
11-49,535,354	12/22/61

All are endorsed [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] Arizona, except for 11-49,535,354, which does not list a city but does list in addition to the address on [redacted]

It is not known to Kansas City, if [redacted]
[redacted] BILLIE SOL ESTES.

b6
b7C

Enclosed to Dallas is one copy each of the following United States Postal Money Orders:

11-49,535,337 through 11-49,535,342
11-49,534,087 through 11-49,534,089

A copy has not as yet been received of PMO 11-49535,354.

LEADS

DALLAS OFFICE

Leads are not being set forth for Washington Field or San Francisco to verify deposits of the PMO's at the American Security Bank and Trust Co., and Bank of America inasmuch as PMO's clearly show same were deposited at these banks.

EL PASO DIVISION

At Pecos, Texas:

1. Will, if not already done, identify [redacted] and determine why she issued the previously described 4 PMO's to [redacted]

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KC 58-194

2. Will if deemed appropriate interview GEORGE KRUTILEK in order to determine why two PMO's were issued to him by BILLIE SOL ESTES.

It should be noted that Kansas City is not aware of the relationship of [REDACTED] and GEORGE KRUTILEK to either subjects of this case or investigation being conducted.

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WASHINGTON FIELD (INFORMATION)

One copy of this airtel is being furnished to WFO inasmuch as that office is presently conducting investigation in this matter.

KANSAS CITY OFFICE

Will continue review of PMO's.

ESTES MAY HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

F B I

Date: 5/9/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)ST
Via *lso* AIRTEL

AIR MAIL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, EL PASO (58-59) (P)

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka
ET. AL.
BRIBERY - CONFLICT OF INTEREST

OO: DALLAS

Re WFO airtel 5/4/62, Page 3.

POSTAL MONEY ORDER STUBS

SA [redacted] ascertained at the U. S. Post Office, Pecos, Texas, that the Postal Money Order stubs show that Postal Money Order Stubs #11-49,535,337 through and including Postal Money Order 11-49,535,342 were all issued on 12/21/61 and each was issued in the amount of \$100.

The estimated number of Postal Money Orders issued by the Pecos Post Office varies between 25,000 and 30,000 Postal Money Orders per year.

SA EDWARD JOSEPH MURPHY ascertained from Postal Inspector MARVIN PROVOST, U. S. Post Office, El Paso, Texas, that 621,795 Postal Money Orders were issued by the El Paso Post Office and branches thereof since 1/1/61 to 5/7/62, including those which might have been spoiled.

CROSBY

3 - Bureau
1 - Dallas
1 - Washington Field
1 - El Paso
FEC:sac
(6)

C C Wick

EX - 102
REC-79
To determine if money
spoiled for crime line
per

29-28704-376

17 MAY 11 1962

18

[Handwritten signature]
[Handwritten initials]

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b7c

APPROVED: *[Signature]*
MAY 21 1962

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

Memorandum

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation DATE: May 12, 1962

FROM : Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Criminal Division

HJM:EJL:JN:JB:kes
29-76-334

SUBJECT: Billie Sol Estes, Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property; Bribery, Conspiracy, Fraud Against the Government; Conflict of Interest.

I.

In connection with possible preferential treatment extended Billie Sol Estes or his representatives in the operation of the USDA's cotton allotment program, it is requested that your agents conduct an investigation beginning at the USDA and descending through state and county levels to determine:

General

(a) The participants and dates, including any non-USDA personnel, of any and all conferences pertaining to Estes' participation in the cotton allotment program.

(b) The decisions reached as a result of such conferences; persons responsible; the reasons for such decisions.

(c) The role played by any non-USDA personnel - any recollection of specific statements, acts or recommendations.

(d) Any other contacts with USDA officials by non-USDA personnel relating to such conferences or Estes' participation in the cotton allotment program - specific dates and the nature of such contacts if possible.

Particular Individuals:

Under Secretary Charles S. Murphy

In connection with the above, it is requested that in addition to other parties who may be interviewed, [your agents] interview Under Secretary Charles S. Murphy of the USDA to determine (in addition to any information obtained from Mr. Murphy along the lines indicated above):

REC-48

29-26724-377

5 MAY 18 1962

53 MAY 22 1962

1. His role in any and all conferences concerning Billie Sol Estes' participation in the cotton allotment program.

2. The persons responsible for the decision reached in the memorandum of the General Counsel dated January 31, 1961, reversing the December 15, 1961 memorandum of the General Counsel.

3. The reasons for the above reversal.

4. Whether James T. Ralph, William E. Morris, Horace Godfrey, Emery Jacobs [redacted] or any other USDA employee ever advocated such reversal. If so, the nature of their participation in any decision. b6 b7c

5. Whether Murphy was ever contacted by Senator Ralph Yarborough or any other Congressional personnel relative to appointing Billie Sol Estes to the Cotton Advisory Committee. If so, what was the date and nature of the contact and its outcome. (In this connection see report of SA Andrew T. Shannon, May 8, 1962, page 34, Washington, D. C., where Murphy adverts to a vague allegation of "Congressional pressure.")

6. Whether Charles S. Murphy was responsible for the formal appointment of Billie Sol Estes to the Cotton Advisory Committee on November 17, 1961.

7. Whether he was aware at the time of this appointment that Estes' cotton allotments for 1962 had been cancelled on November 14, 1961.

8. Whether Mr. Murphy was aware of any other derogatory information regarding Billie Sol Estes prior to this appointment. If so, his reasons for following through with the appointment.

9. Whether Murphy has further knowledge as to the reasons behind and persons responsible for the issuance of the 1961 allotment notice in direct conflict with instructions of the USDA. (In this connection, see above FBI report, page 32.)

General Counsel - John Bagwell

It is requested that John Bagwell be interviewed on the points covered in questions (1) through (4) outlined with regard to Under-Secretary Murphy.

II

General

It is noted that some investigation has been conducted into the licensing and bonding of Billie Sol Estes as a grain warehouseman and the storage of grain in his warehouse facilities under

Uniform Grain Storage Agreements.

In line with your continuing investigation into these matters, it is requested that a similar general inquiry be made with reference to grain storage, licensing, and bonding, as outlined in Part I paragraphs (a)(b)(c) and (d) above.

Particular Individuals

Carl J. Miller
Clarence Hilary Moseley
[REDACTED]
F. Wainwright Blease
[REDACTED]
Pearlie Maitland Miller
Lee Rogers Wanner

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In connection with the above general inquiry, it is requested that these listed individuals be further interviewed to determine whether they were ever contacted by Congressional personnel relative to the licensing, bonding, or storing of grain in facilities owned or operated by Billie Sol Estes. If so, the nature and details of such contacts and the results, if any.

III.

With reference to any individual interviewed in the course of the investigation it is requested that he be asked:

1. Whether he shares a business or personal interest with Billie Sol Estes.
2. Whether he in any way assisted Billie Sol Estes at the USDA.
3. Whether he has ever accepted any money or gratuities from Billie Sol Estes.

Whenever the above inquiries reveal a key decision relevant to Estes' obtaining the benefits of cotton allotments or grain storage under Uniform Grain Storage Agreements, it is requested that a review of supporting documentation be made to discover whether there is any evidence of preferential treatment, favoritism or relaxation of established standards in favor of Estes.

MAY 14, 1962

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

REC-48

EX-105

TO

SAC'S, WFO
DALLAS
KANSAS CITY
EL PASO
SAN ANTONIO

FROM

DIRECTOR, FBI

BILLIE SOL ESTES, INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY; BRIBERY, CONSPIRACY, FRAUD AGAINST THE
GOVERNMENT; CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED THE FOLLOWING
INVESTIGATION: PART ONE

QUOTE IN CONNECTION WITH POSSIBLE PREFERENTIAL
TREATMENT EXTENDED BILLIE SOL ESTES OR HIS REPRESENTATIVES IN
THE OPERATION OF THE USDA'S COTTON ALLOTMENT PROGRAM, IT IS
REQUESTED THAT YOUR AGENTS CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION BEGINNING
AT THE USDA AND DESCENDING THROUGH STATE AND COUNTY LEVELS TO
DETERMINE: GENERAL: (A) THE PARTICIPANTS AND DATES, INCLUDING
ANY NON-USDA PERSONNEL, OF ANY AND ALL CONFERENCES PERTAINING
TO ESTES' PARTICIPATION IN THE COTTON ALLOTMENT PROGRAM.
(B) THE DECISIONS REACHED AS A RESULT OF SUCH CONFERENCES;
PERSONS RESPONSIBLE; THE REASONS FOR SUCH DECISIONS. (C) THE
ROLE PLAYED BY ANY NON-USDA PERSONNEL DASH ANY RECOLLECTION OF

GEB:imc

(6)

MAY 22 1962

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 14 1962

TELETYPE

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

PAGE TWO

TELETYPE SAC'S, WFO
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

SPECIFIC STATEMENTS, ACTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS. (D) ANY OTHER CONTACTS WITH USDA OFFICIALS BY NON-USDA PERSONNEL RELATING TO SUCH CONFERENCES OR ESTES' PARTICIPATION IN THE COTTON ALLOTMENT PROGRAM DASH SPECIFIC DATES AND THE NATURE OF SUCH CONTACTS IF POSSIBLE.

PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS: UNDER SECRETARY CHARLES S. MURPHY. IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE, IT IS REQUESTED THAT IN ADDITION TO OTHER PARTIES WHO MAY BE INTERVIEWED, INTERVIEW UNDER SECRETARY CHARLES S. MURPHY OF THE USDA TO DETERMINE (IN ADDITION TO ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM MR. MURPHY ALONG THE LINES INDICATED ABOVE):

ONE. HIS ROLE IN ANY AND ALL CONFERENCES CONCERNING BILLIE SOL ESTES' PARTICIPATION IN THE COTTON ALLOTMENT PROGRAM.

TWO. THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DECISION REACHED IN THE MEMORANDUM OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL DATED JANUARY THIRTYONE, SIXTYONE, REVERSING THE DECEMBER FIFTEEN, SIXTYONE MEMORANDUM OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL.

THREE. THE REASONS FOR THE ABOVE REVERSAL.

FOUR. WHETHER JAMES T. RALPH, WILLIAM E. MORRIS, HORACE GODFREY, EMERY JACOBS OR [REDACTED] OR ANY OTHER USDA EMPLOYEE EVER ADVOCATED SUCH REVERSAL. IF SO, THE NATURE OF THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ANY DECISION.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 14 1962

TELETYPE

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9:19 P.M. lws

PAGE THREE

TELETYPE SAC'S, WFO
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

FIVE. WHETHER MURPHY WAS EVER CONTACTED BY SENATOR RALPH YARBOROUGH OR ANY OTHER CONGRESSIONAL PERSONNEL RELATIVE TO APPOINTING BILLIE SOL ESTES TO THE COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE. IF SO, WHAT WAS THE DATE AND NATURE OF THE CONTACT AND ITS OUTCOME. (IN THIS CONNECTION SEE REPORT OF SA ANDREW T. SHANNON, MAY EIGHT, SIXTYTWO, PAGE THIRTYFOUR, WASHINGTON, D.C., WHERE MURPHY ADVERTS TO A VAGUE ALLEGATION OF QUOTE CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURE. UNQUOTE).

SIX. WHETHER CHARLES S. MURPHY WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF BILLIE SOL ESTES TO THE COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NOVEMBER SEVENTEEN, SIXTYONE.

SEVEN. WHETHER HE WAS AWARE AT THE TIME OF THIS APPOINTMENT THAT ESTES' COTTON ALLOTMENTS FOR SIXTYTWO HAD BEEN CANCELED ON NOVEMBER FOURTEEN, SIXTYONE.

EIGHT. WHETHER MR. MURPHY WAS AWARE OF ANY OTHER DEROGATORY INFORMATION REGARDING BILLIE SOL ESTES PRIOR TO THIS APPOINTMENT. IF SO, HIS REASONS FOR FOLLOWING THROUGH WITH THE APPOINTMENT.

NINE. WHETHER MURPHY HAS FURTHER KNOWLEDGE AS TO THE REASONS BEHIND AND PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF THE SIXTYONE ALLOTMENT NOTICE IN DIRECT CONFLICT WITH INSTRUCTIONS OF THE USDA. (IN THIS CONNECTION, SEE ABOVE FBI REPORT, PAGE THIRTYTWO).

GENERAL COUNSEL DASH JOHN BAGWELL: IT IS REQUESTED THAT JOHN BAGWELL BE INTERVIEWED ON THE POINTS COVERED IN QUESTIONS ONE THROUGH FOUR OUTLINED WITH REGARD TO UNDER SECRETARY MURPHY.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 14 1962

TELETYPE

9:19 P.M. W

PAGE FOUR

TELETYPE SAC'S, WFO
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

PART TWO

GENERAL: IT IS NOTED THAT SOME INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED INTO THE LICENSING AND BONDING OF BILLIE SOL ESTES AS A GRAIN WAREHOUSEMAN AND THE STORAGE OF GRAIN IN HIS WAREHOUSE FACILITIES UNDER UNIFORM GRAIN STORAGE AGREEMENTS.

IN LINE WITH YOUR CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THESE MATTERS, IT IS REQUESTED THAT A SIMILAR GENERAL INQUIRY BE MADE WITH REFERENCE TO GRAIN STORAGE, LICENSING, AND BONDING, AS OUTLINED IN PART ONE, PARAGRAPHS (A) (B) (C) AND (D) ABOVE.

PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS:

CARL J. MILLER; CLARENCE HILARY MOSELEY; [REDACTED]

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b7C

[REDACTED] F. WAINWRIGHT BLEASE; [REDACTED] PEARLIE

MAITLAND MILLER; LEE ROGERS WANNER.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE GENERAL INQUIRY, IT IS REQUESTED THAT THESE LISTED INDIVIDUALS BE FURTHER INTERVIEWED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WERE EVER CONTACTED BY CONGRESSIONAL PERSONNEL RELATIVE TO THE LICENSING, BONDING, OR STORING OF GRAIN IN FACILITIES OWNED OR OPERATED BY BILLIE SOL ESTES. IF SO, THE NATURE AND DETAILS OF SUCH CONTACTS AND THE RESULTS, IF ANY.

PART THREE

WITH REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWED IN THE COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATION IT IS REQUESTED THAT HE BE ASKED:

ONE. WHETHER HE SHARES A BUSINESS OR PERSONAL INTEREST WITH BILLIE SOL ESTES.

TWO. WHETHER HE IS ANY WAY ASSOCIATED WITH BILLIE SOL ESTES AT THE USDA.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 14 1962

TELETYPE

9:19 P.M. lms

PAGE FIVE

TELETYPE SAC'S, WFO

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

THREE. WHETHER HE HAS EVER ACCEPTED ANY MONEY OR GRATUITIES FROM BILLIE SOL ESTES.

WHenever the above inquiries reveal a key decision relevant to ESTES' obtaining the benefits of cotton allotments or grain storage under uniform grain storage agreements, it is requested that a review of supporting documentation be made to discover whether there is any evidence of preferential treatment, favoritism or relaxation of established standards in favor of ESTES. UNQUOTE.

DURING THIS INVESTIGATION DETERMINE IF HENRY MARSHALL, ASCS, WHO DIED IN JUNE SIXTYONE, SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORTS. THESE REPORTS IF AVAILABLE SHOULD BE THOROUGHLY REVIEWED. WFO SET OUT ADDITIONAL LEADS IN CONNECTION WITH ABOVE. THIS MUST BE GIVEN TOP PRIORITY AND BUREAU ADVISED BY LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION BY MAY EIGHTEEN, SIXTYTWO, OF RESULTS OF SPECIFIC INTERVIEWS SET FORTH ABOVE. ALSO ADVISE THE LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO COMPLETE REMAINING INVESTIGATION FOR THIS PHASE.

9:19 P.m. L

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 14 1962
TELETYPE

URGENT 5-14-62 9-19 PM LVS
TO SAC-S, WASHINGTON FIELD, DALLAS, KANSAS CITY, EL PASO, AND
SAN ANTONIO
FROM DIRECTOR 5-P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY, BRIBERY, CONSPIRACY, FRAUD AGAINST THE
GOVERNMENT, CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED THE FOLLOWING
INVESTIGATION, PART ONE

QUOTE IN CONNECTION WITH POSSIBLE PREFERENTIAL
TREATMENT EXTENDED BILLIE SOL ESTES OR HIS REPRESENTATIVES IN
THE OPERATION OF THE USDA-S COTTON ALLOTMENT PROGRAM, IT IS
REQUESTED THAT YOUR AGENTS CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION BEGINNING
AT THE USDA AND DESCENDING THROUGH STATE AND COUNTY LEVELS TO
DETERMINE.....GENERAL..... /A/ THE PARTICIPANTS AND DATES, INCLUDING
ANY NON-USDA PERSONNEL, OF ANY AND ALL CONFERENCES PERTAINING
TO ESTES- PARTICIPATION IN THE COTTON ALLOTMENT PROGRAM.
/B/ THE DECISIONS REACHED AS A RESULT OF SUCH CONFERENCES.....
PERSONS RESPONSIBLE.....THE REASONS FOR SUCH DECISIONS. /C/ THE
ROLE PLAYED BY ANY NON-USDA PERSONNEL DASH ANY RECOLLECTION OF

PAGE TWO

SPECIFIC STATEMENTS, ACTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS. /D/ ANY OTHER CONTACTS WITH USDA OFFICIALS BY NON-USDA PERSONNEL RELATING TO SUCH CONFERENCES OR ESTES- PARTICIPATION IN THE COTTON ALLOTMENT PROGRAM DASH SPECIFIC DATES AND THE NATURE OF SUCH CONTACTS IF POSSIBLE.

PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS.....UNDER SECRETARY CHARLES S. MURPHY. IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE, IT IS REQUESTED THAT IN ADDITION TO OTHER PARTIES WHO MAY BE INTERVIEWED, INTERVIEW UNDER SECRETARY CHARLES S. MURPHY OF THE USDA TO DETERMINE /IN ADDITION TO ANY INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM MR. MURPHY ALONG THE LINES INDICATED ABOVE/.....

ONE. HIS ROLE IN ANY AND ALL CONFERENCES CONCERNING BILLIE SOL ESTES- PARTICIPATION IN THE COTTON ALLOTMENT PROGRAM.

TWO. THE PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DECISION REACHED IN THE MEMORANDUM OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL DATED JANUARY THIRTYONE, SIXTYONE, REVERSING THE DECEMBER FIFTEEN, SIXTYONE MEMORANDUM OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL.

THREE. THE RASOXXXXX REASONS FOR THE ABOVE REVERSAL.

FOUR. WHETHER JAMES T. RALPH, WILLIAM E. MORRIS, HORACE GODFREY, EMERY JACOBS OR OR ANY OTHER USDA EMPLOYEE EVER ADVOCATED SUCH REVERSAL. IF SO, THE NATURE OF THEIR PARTICIPATION IN ANY DECISION.

END PAGE TWO

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PAGE THREE

FIVE. WHETHER MURPHY WAS EVER CONTACTED BY SENATOR RALPH YARBOROUGH OR ANY OTHER CONGRESSIONAL PERSONNEL RELATIVE TO APPOINTING BILLIE SOL ESTES TO THE COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE. IF SO, WHAT WAS THE DATE AND NATURE OF THE CONTACT AND ITS OUTCOME. /IN THIS CONNECTION SEE REPORT OF SA ANDREW T. SHANNON, MAY EIGHT, SIXTYTWO, PAGE THIRTYFOUR, WASHINGTON, D.C., WHERE MURPHY ADVERTS TO A VAGUE ALLEGATION OF QUOTE CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURE. UNQUOTE/.

SIX. WHETHER CHARLES S. MURPHY WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FORMAL APPOINTMENT OF BILLIE SOL ESTES TO THE COTTON ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON NOVEMBER SEVENTEEN, SIXTYONE.

SEVEN. WHETHER HE WAS AWARE AT THE TIME OF THIS APPOINTMENT THAT ESTES- COTTON ALLOTMENTS FOR SIXTYTWO HAD BEEN CANCELED ON NOVEMBER FOURTEEN, SIXTYONE.

EIGHT. WHETHER MR. MURPHY WAS AWARE OF ANY OTHER DEROGATORY INFORMATION REGARDING BILLIE SOL ESTES PRIOR TO THIS APPOINTMENT. IF SO, HIS REASONS FOR FOLLOWING THROUGH WITH THE APPOINTMENT.

NINE. WHETHER MURPHY HAS FURTHER KNOWLEDGE AS TO THE REASONS BEHIND AND PERSONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF THE SIXTYONE ALLOTMENT NOTICE IN DIRECT CONFLICT WITH INSTRUCTIONS OF THE USDA. /IN THIS CONNECTION, SEE ABOVE FBI REPORT, PAGE THIRTYTWO/.

GENERAL COUNSEL DASH JOHN BAGWELL.....IT IS REQUESTED THAT JOHN BAGWELL BE INTERVIEWED ON THE POINTS COVERED IN QUESTIONS ONE THROUGH FOUR OUTLINED WITH REGARD TO UNDER-SECRETARY MURPHY.
END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

PART TWO

GENERAL.....IT IS NOTED THAT SOME INVESTIGATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED INTO THE LICENSING AND BONDING OF BILLIE SOL ESTES AS A GRAIN WAREHOUSEMAN AND THE STORAGE OF GRAIN IN HIS WAREHOUSE FACILITIES UNDER UNIFORM GRAIN STORAGE AGREEMENTS.

IN LINE WITH YOUR CONTINUING INVESTIGATION INTO THESE MATTERS, IT IS REQUESTED THAT A SIMILAR GENERAL INQUIRY BE MADE WITH REFERENCE TO GRAIN STORAGE, LICENSING, AND BONDING, AS OUTLINED IN PART ONE, PARAGRAPHS /A/ /B/ /C/ AND /D/ ABOVE.

PARTICULAR INDIVIDUALS.....

CARL J. MILLER, CLARENCE HILARY MOSELEY, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] F. WAINWRIGHT BLEASE, [REDACTED]

PEARLIE

MAITLAND MILLER, LEE ROGERS WANNER.

IN CONNECTION WITH THE ABOVE GENERAL INQUIRY, IT IS REQUESTED THAT THESE LISTED INDIVIDUALS BE FURTHER INTERVIEWED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY WERE EVER CONTACTED BY CONGRESSIONAL PERSONNEL RELATIVE TO THE LICENSING, BONDING, OR STORING OF GRAIN IN FACILITIES OWNED OR OPERATED BY BILLIE SOL ESTES. IF SO, THE NATURE AND DETAILS OF SUCH CONTACTS AND THE RESULTS, IF ANY.

PART THREE

WITH REFERENCE TO ANY INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEWED IN THE COURSE OF THE INVESTIGATION IT IS REQUESTED THAT HE BE ASKED.....

ONE. WHETHER HE SHARES A BUSINESS OR PERSONAL INTEREST WITH BILLIE SOL ESTES.

TWO. WHETHER HE IN ANY WAY ASSISTED BILLIE SOL ESTES AT THE USDA.

END PAGE FOUR

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PAGE FIVE

THREE. WHETHER HE HAS EVER ACCEPTED ANY MONEY OR GRATUITIES FROM BILLIE SOL ESTES.

WHENEVER THE ABOVE INQUIRIES REVEAL A KEY DECISION RELEVANT TO ESTES- OBTAINING THE BENEFITS OF COTTON ALLOTMENTS OR GRAIN STORAGE UNDER UNIFORM GRAIN STORAGE AGREEMENTS, IT IS REQUESTED THAT A REVIEW OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION BE MADE TO DISCOVER WHETHER THERE IS ANY EVIDENCE OF PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT, FAVORITISM OR RELAXATION OF ESTABLISHED STANDARDS IN FAVOR OF ESTES. UNQUOTE.

DURING THIS INVESTIGATION DETERMINE IF HENRY MARSHALL, ASCS, WHO DIED IN JUNE SIXTYONE, SUBMITTED WRITTEN REPORTS. THESE REPORTS IF AVAILABLE SHOULD BE THOROUGHLY REVIEWED. WFO SET OUT ADDITIONAL LEADS IN CONNECTION WITH ABOVE. THIS MUST BE GIVEN TOP PRIORITY AND BUREAU ADVISED BY LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION BY MAY EIGHTEEN, SIXTYTWO, OF RESULTS OF SPECIFIC INTERVIEWS SET FORTH ABOVE. ALSO ADVISE THE LENGTH OF TIME REQUIRED TO COMPLETE REMAINING INVESTIGATION FOR THIS PHASE.

CORRECTION PAGE FIVE LINE FIFTEEN WORD SEVEN SHD READ
"SIXTYTWO" RPT "SIXTYTWO"

END ACK PLS IN ORDER

DL OK FBI DL LJH

KC 9 OK FBI KC GLH

TU BOTH DISC

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: May 14, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION
OF STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

Tolson ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Evans ☒
 Malone ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holmes ☒
 Gandy ☒

The attached memorandum from the Department requests that Agents conduct investigation at the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington, as well as through the state and county agencies of Agriculture.

It names specific individuals to be interviewed, including Under Secretary Charles S. Murphy and General Counsel John Bagwell, both of Agriculture.

The investigation would include all phases of the contacts between Estes and members of the Department of Agriculture including specific questions as to whether the individuals being interviewed accepted gifts from Estes or took favorable action for him. It is also specifically set out that Murphy should be questioned concerning contacts by Congressmen to have favorable action taken towards Estes.

ACTION

If approved, requested investigation will be initiated.

Enclosure

TWC:cag,cag
(9)

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Mohr

EX-105

REC-48

29-28704-377

5 MAY 18 1962

See 2d. to WFO,
 Dr. K. F. R. S. A
 5-14-62
 JLB:mir

V.
 Mute
 Eubank

WFW
 RRM

5/14
 Being done
 SD

Give top priority -

223

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: May 12, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

Tolson ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Evans ☒
 Malone ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holmes ☒
 Gandy ☒

middle
Clinton

In connection with the reported resignation of Assistant Secretary of Labor Jerry R. Holleman as reflected in the newspaper accounts this morning in which he has admitted accepting a \$1,000 gift from Billie Sol Estes we received a request from the Department on the evening of 5/10/62. This request was immediately relayed to the Washington Field Office and Holleman was contacted by Agents on the early morning of 5/11/62 for an interview. At that time he stated he had an extremely busy schedule and refused to be interviewed and stated he would be available for interview at 10:00 a. m., Monday, 5/14/62.

The requested interview of Holleman was in connection with his attempt to have Billie Sol Estes pay for a dinner given by Secretary of Labor ARTHUR Goldberg in honor of Vice President Lyndon Johnson. We had no prior knowledge of the \$1,000 gift given by Estes to Holleman; however, it would appear that our scheduled interview with Holleman was probably the motivating factor behind his resignation and disclosure.

Holleman will be interviewed by us as planned 10:00 a. m., Monday 5/12/62. Dept advised.

As a result of our furnishing the Criminal Division of the Department on Friday information about telephone calls charged to the business telephone of Billie Sol Estes by Dr. James T. Ralph, [redacted] of the Department today advised that the Attorney General wanted the FBI to immediately reinterview Ralph concerning his charging of telephone calls to Estes' business account as well as all of his relations with Estes.

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b7c

1 - Mr. Evans
1 - Mr. DeLoach

REC-48

WBW:jlt
(8)

EX-105

MAY 18 1962

MAY 21 1962

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

Agents of the Washington Field Office immediately contacted the Ralph [redacted] Ralph was on a field trip with the Foreign Agriculture Service and if he called her she would advise him of our desire to interview him. Shortly after 2 o'clock Ralph contacted Agents of the Washington Field Office and when requested to appear for an interview advised that he had prior commitments for today and did not desire to be interviewed until 9:00 a. m., Monday at which time he will come to the Washington Field Office.

b6
b7C

In the absence of [redacted] of the Criminal Division, who is handling this matter was advised of the unavailability today of Ralph and that he did not desire to be interviewed until 9:00 a. m. Monday. [redacted] advised that he would clear the matter with proper authorities in the Department and called back to advise that the 9:00 a. m. Monday interview of Ralph would be satisfactory.

b6
b7C

[Handwritten signatures]

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: May 16, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

Tolson ☒
 Belmont ☒
 Mohr ☒
 Callahan ☒
 Conrad ☒
 DeLoach ☒
 Evans ☒
 Malone ☒
 Rosen ☒
 Sullivan ☒
 Tavel ☒
 Trotter ☒
 Tele. Room ☒
 Holmes ☒
 Gandy ☒

WRITTEN
 This is to advise that a request has been received from the Department for immediate handling that will enable President Kennedy at a press conference tomorrow to state that the "Washington Project" deals with a housing project in Spokane, Washington, and that the three checks mentioned as allegedly being connected with the "Washington Project" were legitimate business transactions on the part of Estes.

They are referring to three checks that were drawn on 1-16-62. We determined confidentially through [redacted] Estes, that two checks were drawn, payable to the First National Bank of Pecos, Pecos, Texas, to pick up drafts drawn by the Associated Investments Company, Lubbock, Texas, and the Commercial Credit Corporation, Baltimore, Maryland. The third check represents a payment for a cashiers check which was forwarded to the Commercial Solvents Corporation at New York for payment on grain storage at Hereford, Texas.

b6
 b7C
 b7D

EX-105 REC-48 29-28704-380
 The El Paso Office was immediately instructed to develop this information. All leads were to be set forth by telephone and the Bureau immediately advised telephonically of all developments. We are also having the Dallas, Baltimore and New York Offices check with the companies involved to determine if these checks were in payment of a legitimate business transaction. We will have Seattle handle this to identify the properties in Spokane, Washington, through Estes' records and check it out. This is being given top priority.

5 MAY 18 1962

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Evans

WBW:mal

(8)

50 MAY 23 1962

Filed along
 no "night interview"
 and get from [unclear]

Be certain we get
 the facts. Also I
 don't want any
 night interviews
 irrespective of the
 deadline.

X.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: May 17, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: **BILLIE SOL ESTES**
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

Tolson	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Callahan	✓
Conrad	✓
DeLoach	✓
Evans	✓
Malone	✓
Rosen	✓
Sullivan	✓
Tavel	✓
Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holmes	✓
Gandy	✓

This is to advise of our current investigation into the "Washington Project" and our attempt to secure documentation of same.

Will Wilson, Attorney General for the State of Texas, has, in press releases, referred to the "Washington Project" for which \$235,000 was withdrawn from Estes' bank account. He cited three checks, one for \$40,876.14, one for \$64,139, and one for \$40,000. Newspaper photographs of these indicated that they were payable to the First National Bank of Pecos and drawn on the account of Billie Sol Estes.

"WASHINGTON PROJECT"

Our examination of the records in the possession of the receiver have disclosed that there is a ledger account captioned, "Washington Project." A number of items of correspondence have also been located dealing with the "Washington Project". A quick examination would indicate that this refers to a housing project in the Columbia Basin in the State of Washington. It appears that Estes and a number of fellow Texans purchased this housing project. Most activity appears to be during the year 1959. We were unable to examine this account in detail and secure Photostat documentation before the close of business yesterday. Our Agents will handle this immediately this morning.

IDENTIFICATION OF CHECKS MENTIONED ABOVE

In connection with the three checks mentioned above we have located the three canceled checks. It appears that Estes was indebted to the Associated Investment Company of Lubbock, Texas, in the amount of \$40,876.14, the Commercial Credit Corporation in the amount of \$64,139 and the Commercial Credit Corporation in the amount of \$40,000. The latter company also being in Lubbock, Texas.

REC-48

29-28704-381

Mr. DeLoach

Mr. Evans

EX-105

5 MAY 18 1962

WBW:vhm (9)

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

These credit corporations in order to secure payment for debts owed to them by Estes drew drafts on the First National Bank of Pecos. The drafts were submitted to the bank at which time these checks were drawn by Estes [redacted] and presented to the bank in payment of the drafts. We have secured Photostat documentation in the form of the canceled checks, drafts drawn by the credit corporations and the bank money orders (with one exception and we are still looking for this).

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On receipt of the check from Estes the bank would prepare its own money order and forward that to the drawer of the draft, that is the credit corporations in this case.

We have also contacted the manager of the Associated Investment Company, Lubbock, Texas, who has identified the \$40,876.14 item. He stated that his company drew the draft on the First National Bank of Pecos in order to secure payment from Estes on an overdue note. This was paid as a result of this draft. We are also attempting to secure Photostat documentation of this.

This will be cleared in advance

This phase of our investigation is being given top priority and the Department will be advised when the complete picture has been secured and we have Photostat documentation of the evidence. In view of the Presidential interest in this particular phase we must continue to make a most thorough investigation because, while at this stage the "Washington Project" appears to deal with a housing project, we nevertheless are not sure that no Washington politicians are involved.

for R Wm
We must get all the facts
& place in memo for A.G. &
the Dept. We are not to be
stamped by any "dead lines"
set for press conferences etc.
H

May 16, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES

This is to furnish you with the results of our interviews with three individuals who were called by Dr. James T. Ralph on February 18, 1962, the calls being charged to Billie Sol Estes by the use of a telephone credit card number issued to Estes.

[redacted] Montana Woolgrowers Association, Helena, Montana, on May 15, 1962, advised he first met Dr. James T. Ralph at the Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C., in January, 1961, in regard to the extension of the Wool Act of 1954. [redacted] stated he had lunch with Dr. Ralph on one occasion later in the year. He stated he requested Dr. Ralph to speak at the Montana Woolgrowers Association convention in Billings, Montana, on December 6, 1961. [redacted] stated he requested the assistance of United States Senator Mike Mansfield, Democrat from Montana, in obtaining Dr. Ralph as a speaker and Dr. Ralph did appear at the convention.

[redacted] stated that during the morning of February 18, 1962, he received a telephone call at his home in Helena, Montana, from Dr. Ralph, at which time Dr. Ralph stated that he had been "fired" by Secretary of Agriculture Freeman for using poor judgment in the things he said in speeches. Dr. Ralph indicated he was "fired" for differences on farm program policies. During the call [redacted] stated that Dr. Ralph asked him to contact Senator Mansfield to intercede in his behalf and that he, [redacted] should say that he had heard of Dr. Ralph's dismissal from certain California people, the names of whom were not recalled by [redacted]

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b7C

FDT:imt

(7)

3 MAY 21 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

REC-48

6-7629-28704-382

5 MAY 18 1962

Billie Sol Estes

As a result of the telephone call from Dr. Ralph, [redacted] stated that he directed the following telegram to Senator Mansfield on February 19, 1962:

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"Received word from California this morning that Dr. James Ralph was being removed as an Assistant Secretary of Agriculture. Stop. I would urge you to intercede in his behalf as he is certainly a wonderful salesman for the Kennedy Administration. Stop. His approach to farm problems appears realistic and was extremely well received by our members at our convention in December, 1961. Stop. A check with Clair Angle might be well worth while. Stop."

[redacted] stated that his next and last personal contact with Dr. Ralph was in Washington, D. C., on April 6, 1962, when Dr. Ralph requested that he be [redacted] American Sheep Producers Council. [redacted] stated he did not recommend Dr. Ralph for the position.

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[redacted] E. & J. Gallo Winery, Modesto, California, upon interview on May 15, 1962, advised that he first met Dr. James T. Ralph while the latter was Director of the California Department of Agriculture, but he had no close contact with Dr. Ralph in that capacity. [redacted] stated that he did become well-acquainted with Dr. Ralph through Dr. Ralph's work for the United States Department of Agriculture in the grape marketing field.

b6
b7C

[redacted] stated that his last contact with Dr. Ralph was in the form of a telephone call received from Dr. Ralph on a Sunday, exact date not recalled, presumably from Washington, D. C., at which time Dr. Ralph advised [redacted] that on the preceding Friday he had been asked to "resign without cause" or go to the Philippine Islands in some capacity. [redacted] recalled that he asked Dr. Ralph if he had talked to "The California Delegation" concerning this matter and Dr. Ralph, to the best of [redacted] recollection, indicated that he had contacted this group. [redacted]

b6
b7C

Billie Sol Estes

stated that Dr. Ralph in no way asked him to intercede in his behalf concerning the requested resignation. He further stated that Dr. Ralph did not make any inquiry concerning other possible employment and, in fact,

[redacted] could not recall the exact reason for Mr. Ralph's call to him. He speculated that the call was apparently of a purely informative nature to advise [redacted] of the requested resignation.

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[redacted] Calcot Limited, a cotton marketing cooperative, Bakersfield, California, on May 15, 1962, advised he first met Dr. James T. Ralph in December of 1960, at an Agricultural Council meeting in San Francisco, California. [redacted] stated that Dr. Ralph was Head of the Agricultural Department of the State of California prior to his appointment with the United States Department of Agriculture in Washington, D. C.

b6
b7C

[redacted] stated that he recalled seeing Dr. Ralph on four occasions in 1961; twice in Washington, D. C., on another occasion at a meeting in Santa Barbara, California, and once at a meeting in Carmel, California. [redacted] explained that all of these contacts with Dr. Ralph were in connection with the Calcot Industry.

b6
b7C

[redacted] stated that his only contact with Dr. Ralph in 1962 was a telephone call from Dr. Ralph earlier this year, at which time Dr. Ralph advised he had been relieved of his position with the United States Department of Agriculture. [redacted] stated that he gained the impression that Dr. Ralph was "kidding" when he advised him about the job and when Dr. Ralph mentioned he might accept a position in the Philippine Islands, he told Dr. Ralph he should accept. [redacted] said this comment apparently forestalled any request by Dr. Ralph for a job. He stated that he has had no further contact with Dr. Ralph and has never known him other than in contacts as a Calcot Industry representative.

b6
b7C

The Attorney General

May 18, 1962

Director, FBI

DILLID COL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. Welte
1 - Mr. Curran

This is to advise you of a further development in the interview of Dr. James T. Ralph, former employee of the Department of Agriculture, who has accepted gifts from Estes.

Dr. Ralph was interviewed under oath by Agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on May 14, 1962, and the results were furnished to you in detail by letter dated May 15, 1962. During the interview of May 14, 1962, Dr. Ralph stated he attended a Democratic dinner party on January 30, 1962, and Estes was present. He stated he received two tickets from Representative D. B. Sound, Democrat from California, for this dinner. He stated he also received a third ticket which was used by his father-in-law, from Bill Orrick, Assistant Attorney General, United States Department of Justice.

The results of the interview of Dr. Ralph were prepared in the form of a signed statement and on May 16, 1962, Dr. Ralph appeared at our Washington Field Office to sign this statement.

Dr. Ralph stated after his interview on May 14, he contacted Bill Orrick and Orrick told him he had not given him a ticket to the Democratic dinner party. Dr. Ralph stated he received this ticket from another Californian in Washington, D. C., whom he could not now recall.

You will be advised of further developments in this case.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General

1 - Mr. Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

1 - Mr. DeLoach

1 - Mr. Evans

GEB:jak:kak

(12)
3 MAY 21 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

EX-105

REC'D MAY 18 1962

5 MAY 18 1962

MAY 18 1 25 PM '62

REC'D-READING ROOM

MAILED 2

MAY 18 1962

COMM-FBI

Mr. Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

May 17, 1962

Director, FBI

BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

The following is for your file in reference to the above entitled matter having been furnished confidentially to a representative of this Bureau.

We have learned that N. Dattle Hales, United States Department of Agriculture employee, refused to be interviewed by a representative of the Department of Agriculture and demanded that any questions the Department of Agriculture had for him should be submitted in writing.

We learned that it is quite possible that because of this some administrative action would be taken by the Department of Agriculture against Hales.

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
JOK:lmc:mal
(11)

NOTE:

Source of this information is [redacted]

[redacted] United States Department of Agriculture, who furnished this information telephonically on 5-16-62, to SA [redacted] at the WFO. See WFO airtel, dated 5-16-62.

REC'D-READING ROOM

FBI

MAY 17 5 18 PM '62

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Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

50 MAY 22 1962

F B I

Date: 5/16/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka; et al
 ITSP; BRIBERY; COI
 (OO:DL) ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ INTEREST

Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property

[redacted] U.S. Department
 of Agriculture (USDA), advised SA [redacted] by
 telephone on 5/16/62, that N. BATTLE HALES, USDA employee,
 had refused to be interviewed by him and had stated to him
 that any questions he had for him should be submitted in
 writing.

[redacted] advised that because of this it was quite
 possible that some administrative action would be taken
 by USDA against HALES.

[redacted] specifically stated that this information
 was being furnished on a confidential basis and that he was
 merely "tipping off" the FBI.

EX-105 REC-48

5 MAY 18 1962

3 - Bureau
 1 - WFO
 FWA:SKF
 (4)

Assistant Attorney General Miller
 has been confidentially advised of
 the above.

AIRTEL

lt to Herbert Miller
 5/17/62
 JOK

Was this by word orally
 or in writing?
 furnished
 confirmed
 by memo
 to Miller
 dated 5/17/62

Approved: _____
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

b6
 b7C
 b7D

b6
 b7C
 b7D

b6
 b7C
 b7D

5/18/62

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SACS DALLAS
EL PASO

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ELECTION LAWS.

REBUTEL SIXTEENTH INSTANT.

SUBMIT THREE COPIES OF ALL REPORTS TO BUREAU.

2 - Washington Field (BM)

WLM:mas
(5)

NOTE: Per request of [REDACTED] CRD, who asked that 2
copies of all reports be furnished to the Department.

b6
b7c

EX-103
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 18 1962

REC-48

TELETYPE

MAY 18 1962

29-2870-385

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 18 1962 *ms*
TELETYPE

URGENT 5-18-62 11-38 AM MSL

TO SACS WASHINGTON FIELD, DALLAS, EL PASO
FROM DIRECTOR 1 P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ELECTION LAW. REBUTEL SIXTEENTH INSTANT.
SUBMIT THREE COPIES OF ALL REPORTS TO BUREAU.

END ACK PLS

EP OK FBI EP IJP

DKXXX DL OK FBI DL WD

RU DISC

F B I

Date: 5/15/62

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL _____

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka; et-al
 ITSP; BRIBERY; COI
 (OO: DL)

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies and for
 Dallas one copy of a LHM dated and captioned
 Concerning interview of _____

date by SAS _____

Dept. of Agriculture, conducted this
 and BERNARD M. MABES.

Interviews in this matter continuing.

ESTES REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

(3-Bureau (enc-4)
 1-Dallas (58-188) (Enc-1) (Info)
 2-WFO

ENCLOSURE

JEH:MJB
 (6)

AIRTEL

REC-48

29-28704-386

EX-105

5 MAY 18 1962

1 cc each memo
 to Dept.
 5-16-62
 JEB:mc

1 cc returned
 5-17-62
 JEB:mc

C. E. Wick

50 MAY 22 1962

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
 Special Agent in Charge

b6
b7C



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
May 15, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY
CONFLICT OF INTEREST
BRIBERY

On May 15, 1962, [redacted] b6
[redacted] United States Department of Agriculture b7C
(USDA), advised he had been called at about 10 or 10:30 a.m.,
on April 25, 1962, by [redacted]
Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS), USDA.
[redacted] a person's behavior caused her to believe
the person was ill and asked [redacted] to "come up."

[redacted] stated he proceeded to the office indicated b6
by [redacted] and when he arrived there were several people in this b7C
office. Those in the office [redacted] identified as [redacted]
[redacted] John P.
Haughey, Chief of Personnel, Room 5749. [redacted] Miss Mary K.
Jones and Miss Jones' superior, whom [redacted] did not know.

[redacted] stated when he entered the room, he saw b6
Jones standing, holding papers, ranting, "free association." b7C
standing off at a distance from the other people. [redacted]
asked [redacted] to leave the room. According to [redacted]
Jones then hurried toward the window. [redacted] stated this office
was on the fifth floor. Jones started to raise the window, but
[redacted] stated he got to the window first, as a precautionary
measure and raised the window himself, and after asking her why
she wanted the window raised, she stated she was hot. [redacted]
stated this could be possible since she was in the condition
previously described. Jones immediately sat down and told
[redacted] he was not a doctor, but was "an FBI man." She said
there were FBI men coming in and out of her office for several
days and mentioned files being locked up and she had been locked
out of her office. Jones then mentioned a friend, a former
roommate on 16th Street as having moved and "this would change
things -- Everything is different now." Jones said someone was
taking mail from her mailbox.

29-28704-384

ENCLOSURE

Re: BILLIE SOL ESTES

[redacted] stated he tried to get the name of her doctor from her, at which time someone came in and asked her about her time and attendance sheet and she became very upset and took exception to anyone questioning her.

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b7C

[redacted] stated he felt she would get worse and decided to take her to his office. He stated she departed the office and he followed her. Upon reaching the hallway, still carrying the papers, of which [redacted] was unaware as to the identity, she hurried down the hall. [redacted] at this point, asked [redacted] to take Jones by the arm and [redacted] took hold of the other arm to accompany her to the elevator. At this point, Jones dropped the papers she was holding in resistance to [redacted] and the doctor holding her. Jones became terrified and wanted the papers back. A passing female employee said she would take care of the papers and Jones seemed to be satisfied. The doctor stated these papers included what appeared to him to be a desk calendar and other papers which he could not identify.

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b7C

[redacted] then escorted Jones onto the elevator where she screamed and raged. During this elevator trip to the first floor, she kicked a shoe off as an elevator passenger departed on one of the floors. This passenger tossed the shoe back onto the elevator and Jones hit [redacted] over the head with her handbag and shoe.

b6
b7C

[redacted] stated they finally got to his office and he told Jones he was going to call her doctor. Jones refused to say who her doctor was and [redacted] her doctor was a [redacted] stated the Medical Directory lists [redacted] as a General Practitioner.

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b7C

[redacted] stated he called [redacted] and told him about Jones' confusion, agitation and the fact that she would not cooperate. [redacted] told [redacted] Jones had been his patient previously and said he was not surprised at her condition. [redacted] asked [redacted] whether he wanted the girl brought to [redacted] office and [redacted] said to take her to D.C. General Hospital. [redacted] stated that Jones refused to go to the hospital and [redacted] said "What do you do in a case like this?" [redacted] stated he asked [redacted] to come over to USDA, but [redacted] said he was too busy and that Jones should be hospitalized. [redacted] asked where and [redacted] repeated D.C. General Hospital.

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b7C

Re: BILLIE SOL ESTES

At this point, [] recalled having discussed with his predecessor, [] now at the Civil Service Commission, about May, 1960, when [] was becoming oriented in his position, this type of situation. [] predecessor had told him that guards at the Federal buildings or the Metropolitan Police officers could swear out a warrant and commit a person to the hospital. Because of this recollection, [] instructed his secretary to call the police department.

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b7C

A young police officer from the Fourth Precinct came to USDA, the name of whom [] could not recall. The officer was unsure of procedure and called his superior since Jones had calmed down at this time. Jones then "made another outburst" when the officer called his precinct so the officer stated they could take Jones off [] hands. [] stated he did not sign anything and to his knowledge, no one in USDA signed anything in regards to this matter. [] stated he felt sorry for Jones when she was leaving with the officers since it was lunch time and a crowd began to collect. He offered to escort her to the patrol wagon and the officers accepted his offer. [] stated Jones "balked about getting in" and since she was throwing her head back and forth, he was afraid she would hit it on the wagon. He stated he cushioned her head against any damage on the wagon and she entered the wagon and sat beside [] who had decided to continue escorting her to the hospital.

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b7C

[] stated when they arrived at D.C. General Hospital, the Metropolitan Police officers turned Jones over to officers at the hospital. [] asked these officers at the hospital what would happen to Jones now. The officer answered that they would give her a routine physical examination to insure that no physical injuries had been caused and then send her to "South Building" for psychiatric examination. [] stated this led him to believe someone had called the hospital in advance of his arrival. [] stated he then returned to his office.

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b7C

[] then stated that about April 27, 1962, he had talked with two relatives of Jones, both women, a sister from North Carolina and a sister-in-law from the District of Columbia. The sister from North Carolina, according to [] stated Jones had not been herself since she moved to Virginia. [] also indicated that these two women appeared to feel the matter was handled satisfactorily as far as they were concerned.

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b7C

Re: BILLIE SOL ESTES

[redacted] stated he believed he had called [redacted] once on April 25, 1962, at which time his [redacted] [redacted] was present. However, he recalled that a police report indicated he had called [redacted] in the presence of the officers and thus [redacted] could not determine whether he had made one or two calls to [redacted] [redacted] stated he thinks Jones was released from the hospital on May 7, 1962. He stated he called [redacted] again on May 8, 1962, after her release, and [redacted] did not object to Jones being sent to D.C. General Hospital. [redacted] stated [redacted] seemed reluctant to talk and gave as a reason therefore, newspaper accounts of this incident.

b6
b7C

[redacted] stated he called a [redacted] at D.C. General Hospital, subsequently, and [redacted] indicated Jones should have been hospitalized, that his [redacted] staff was against her release, but his superiors authorized her release since her relatives had promised to insure her care.

b6
b7C

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

F B I

Date: 5/16/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

BILLIE SOL ESTES, et al
ITSP; COI; BRIBERY
(OO:DL)

ReButel dated 5/14/62.

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of a LHM for information which is self-explanatory. Also enclosed is one copy each of the same memo to Dallas and El Paso for info.

Interview in the enclosed memo was conducted by SAs CARLTON V. BRODEN and BERNARD M. MABES.

ESTES IS REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

- ③ - Bureau (Enc. 4) ENCLOSURE
1 - Dallas (58-188) (Enc. 1) (Info) (AM)
1 - El Paso (58-59) (Enc. 1) (Info) (AM)
2 - WFO 29-351

REG-48 29-28704-387

MAY 18 1962

BMM:sap
(7)

EX-105

AIRTEL

2 cc Dept. (Encl.)
5-17-62
y2B: nrc

1 cc returned
Pm. 5732: 178: nrc

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

63 MAY 21 1962



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

May 16, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY
CONFLICT OF INTEREST
BRIBERY

John C. Bagwell, General Counsel, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), advised on May 16, 1962, that he attended the meeting held on January 6, 1962, which was attended by Charles S. Murphy, Undersecretary; [redacted] ASCS; Emery E. Jacobs, ASCS; Joseph A. Moss, ASCS; [redacted] Office of General Counsel; Billie Sol Estes; [redacted] Attorney for Estes; Senator Ralph Yarborough; Congressman J. T. Rutherford; [redacted] Administrative Assistant to Senator Yarborough; and himself.

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b7c

Mr. Bagwell stated that Undersecretary Murphy had agreed to a meeting to be held on January 6, 1962, in his office. This meeting was held at the request of Congressman Rutherford who urged that the Department was wrong in its policy of canceling cotton allotments from the pooled acreage that had been transferred to Pecos and Reeves Counties. Bagwell stated that as a result of this meeting it was decided that USDA would suspend cancellation of Estes' 1961 Upland Cotton Acreage Allotments, and to give Estes, and about 14 or 15 other such operators, an opportunity to prove the bonafide character of the sale and lease back contracts. Therefore, Bagwell concluded, the January 31, 1962, memorandum of USDA, over his signature, did not constitute a reversal of policy but actually gave the benefit of doubt to such operators in that immediate enforcement of the December, 1961, cancellation order could have meant bankruptcy with regard to a number of operators including Estes. Bagwell stated that USDA therefore, as it does in all cases which could involve financial trouble to outsiders, decided that proper notice should be given these operators in order that they have time to furnish necessary proof as to validity of contractual arrangements.

29-28704-387
ENCLOSURE

BILLIE SOL ESTES

Bagwell stated that subsequent to his memorandum of December 15, 1961, USDA sent notices out canceling the 1961 Cotton Acreage Allotments, with regard to those operators using the sale and lease back contracts. Such notices were sent out on December 22, 1961. He advised that such operators then had 15 days' legal limit in which to prove the bonafide character of such contracts or have a hearing before a review committee or appearance in court. He stated that this 15 days' legal limit was about up on January 6, 1962, when Estes and his attorney came to Undersecretary Murphy's office. Bagwell stated that if there had been no suspension, as to the cancellation, then on January 8, 1962, Estes would have had to appear before a review committee. If he then lost his case in front of the review committee, he would have had to appear in court subsequently.

Bagwell stated that Estes, between January 31, 1962, and May 1, 1962, did not prove the bonafide nature of his transactions. Estes, and others, had an opportunity to file a certification with USDA showing that their deals were bonafide and proper. Estes did not file such certification. Therefore, the December, 1961, cancellation of Cotton Acreage Allotments was reinstated in the latter part of April, 1962. In the latter part of April, 1962, USDA notified Estes and other operators that the period for filing the certification would expire in ten days after notice and penalty would then be assessed by USDA.

Bagwell stated that his memorandum of January 31, 1962, to the Undersecretary, was a result of joint administrative and legal decisions made by Undersecretary Murphy and himself. He stated that the decision which was made was a normal one and no favored treatment was extended by such decision. He stated that the decision to afford Estes and other operators an opportunity to prove that their contracts were bonafide was no more consideration than would be given any other transaction which cleared his desk. Bagwell

BILLIE SOL ESTES

advised that he attended other USDA meetings relative to Estes' Cotton Allotments. He stated that there were three or four such meetings which were held in Undersecretary Murphy's office. One such meeting was on January 19, 1962, but he does not recall any particular decision reached on that date except that one could possibly have related to the January 31, 1962, memorandum which he prepared. He stated that the persons attending this meeting would have been [redacted] Office of the General Counsel; [redacted] Office of General Counsel; [redacted] Office of General Counsel; as well as Undersecretary Murphy, [redacted] Jacobs, Moss, and Wilson Tucker, ASCS. He stated that no outsiders attended this meeting nor any other of the three or four meetings mentioned. He stated that he does not recall the dates of other meetings but [redacted] may have kept notes.

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Bagwell stated that he has not attended any meetings or conferences relative to grain storage involving Estes.

Bagwell stated that he did not have any participation in the appointment of Estes to the Cotton Advisory Committee. He stated that he thinks Undersecretary Murphy has taken full responsibility for putting Estes on such committee.

Bagwell stated that aside from the January 6 meeting which he attended, he received telephone calls from [redacted] but does not recall the dates. He stated that Estes called one day in March when he, Bagwell, was not in his office. [redacted] called back and wanted to amend the contract to allow a longer period for paying for the land purchase. Estes subsequently submitted a written request but was turned down by USDA.

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Bagwell stated that it is his impression and recollection that Senator Yarborough and Congressman Rutherford, during the January 6, 1962, meeting, performed for their constituents but exerted no pressure. He stated that Senator Yarborough never called him but that Congressman Rutherford

BILLIE SOL ESTES

called two or three times. He stated that Congressman Rutherford exerted no pressure but only thought that USDA was being too hard on Estes.

Bagwell stated that he never has shared a business or personal interest with Estes and has never assisted Estes in any way in his capacity at USDA. He stated that he has never accepted any money, gifts, or gratuities from Estes or from any representative of Estes. He stated that he has never attended any social functions which were also attended by Estes.

Bagwell advised that he has had no opportunity to see any written reports of Henry H. Marshall and cannot recall what Marshall looks like, although he thinks he has met him.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: May 16, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen *Ry*SUBJECT: **BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY**

Tolson	✓
Belmont	✓
Mohr	✓
Callahan	✓
Conrad	✓
DeLoach	✓
Evans	✓
Malone	✓
Rosen	✓
Sullivan	✓
Tavel	✓
Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holmes	✓
Gandy	✓

With reference to the call received from Assistant Attorney General Miller concerning the inquiry which he received from the White House, the following is submitted.

Miller advised that he had received an inquiry from the President as to the action being taken by the Department in the Estes case. Miller said he was trying to get something together for the present and he wanted to know what the FBI would like to say.

After conferring with you on this matter I advised him that it was entirely up to him as to what the Department wished to say, but that he may note that insofar as the FBI is concerned the full facilities of the FBI are being used and the FBI is giving preferred attention to any aspects within its jurisdiction.

EX-105

REC- 48

29-28704-388

Miller also advised me that he had received a second call from the White House from Myer Feldman, who is Deputy Special Counsel to the President. Feldman asked Miller how many men the FBI had on this case. Miller wanted to know whether an estimate could be furnished to him. I advised him that I would not venture an estimate, that the only way we could know how many men were actually working on it at any one time would be to check with each office and that this would take time and it would have to be accurate. I told him that as he well knew as many men as were needed would be put on the case and that the full facilities of the FBI are being used. Miller said that he did not want a check made to determine how many men were actually working on it.

5 MAY 18 1962

It was suggested to Miller that it would be of interest to know what the Department was going to submit to the President. He said they were merely going to try to go down the line and point out the various matters which had been brought to their attention and the various possibilities which existed in this case.

1 - Mr. Evans

1 - Mr. DeLoach

A.R.H.

(8)

MAY 23 1962

*Properly handled.
Such a request is silly
& impractical to comply with.*

F B I

Date: 5/16/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL
BRIBERY; COI *ITSP*
(00:DL)

Enclosed for the Bureau are four copies of a letterhead memorandum for information, which is self-explanatory. Also enclosed for Dallas is one copy of the memorandum.

Interview in the attached memorandum was conducted by SAs [redacted] and EDWARD C. PALMER.

ESTES IS REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 4) **ENCLOSURE**
1 - Dallas (58-188) (Enc. 1) (Info)
1 - WFO

ECP:MAM
(5)

AIRTEL

REC-48

EX-103

MAY 18 1962

Approved: **50 MAY 22 1962**
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
May 16, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY; BRIBERY;
CONFLICT OF INTEREST

On May 16, 1962, Charles S. Murphy, Undersecretary of Agriculture, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), was interviewed under oath by representatives of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in his office, Room 200 A, Administration Building, USDA. After the purpose of the interview was explained to him, he was advised he did not have to discuss the matter with the Agents, and any information he furnished could be used against him in a court of law. He was advised he had the right to consult an attorney if he desired to do so.

Mr. Murphy explained in connection with the operation of the National Cotton Advisory Council (also referred to as committee) and his participation therewith that this committee worked with the Kennedy Presidential Campaign in 1960 and Dr. Alexander Nunn from Alabama was Chairman. He said that Dr. Nunn was Vice President of the "Progressive Farmer," an agricultural publication in the South.

At the beginning of the new Administration, the USDA asked Dr. Nunn to continue with the committee, which would serve as an informal advisory committee to USDA.

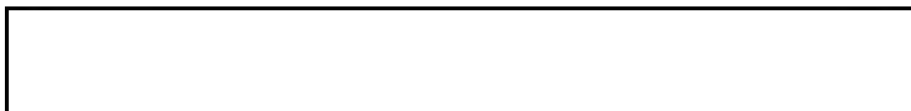
Mr. Murphy stated that during the first half of the year 1961 a number of recommendations were received to add additional members to the committee; and, in this connection, the name of Billie Sol Estes of Pecos, Texas, was recommended. He furnished to the Agents for inspection a letter directed to the Honorable Orville Freeman and himself jointly from Ralph W. Yarborough, United States Senate, dated January 27, 1961, captioned "Mr. Billie Sol Estes, Pecos, Texas."

29-28704-387

ENCLOSURE

In the letter, the Senator made reference to an earlier telephone call to Undersecretary Murphy during that week recommending the appointment of Estes to the National Cotton Advisory Council. It was pointed out in the letter that Estes was an eminently successful farmer in the West Texas area and that farmers in that area were for him.

Attached to Senator Yarborough's letter was a letter received by him from five outstanding farm leaders in the Texas areas, setting forth Estes' qualifications and their endorsements of him. The individuals who signed the letter were as follows:



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Mr. Murphy pointed out that the Senator's letter and the telephone call referred to therein were the only contacts he had from a United States Senator, and he recalled no contacts from any member of Congress concerning Estes in this matter.

Mr. Murphy stated in this connection, concerning this appointment or any other appointment to the committee, that any names recommended for appointment are usually referred to Dr. Nunn, Committee Chairman, with the request that he inquire as to the suitability of the appointee for the position. After advice is received from Dr. Nunn that the candidate is suitable, he, Murphy, makes the appointment.

He said in the case of Estes a letter was received from Dr. Nunn dated June 8, 1961, directed to the Secretary, pointing out the qualifications of Estes and indicating he would be a suitable candidate. Mr. Murphy said after this advice was received he made the appointment, which he believed was in July, 1961. He stated although he has no immediate record showing the actual appointment a roster, which he showed to the Agents, of the members of the committee would reflect Billie Sol Estes was a new member as of July 11, 1961.

Meetings of the committee held in Washington, D. C., on July 17 and 18, 1961, and September 19 and 20, 1961, disclosed Billie Sol Estes was in attendance along with approximately 20 other members from other states. Mr. Murphy, in commenting

generally concerning Estes' appointment in July, 1961, said that no derogatory information of any sort had come to his attention and, in fact, based on the information he had received at that time, he was regarded as an outstanding individual. He said no information had come to his attention at that time concerning the cotton allotment matter involving Estes.

Mr. Murphy furnished to the Agents for inspection "Secretary's Memorandum No. 1481," dated November 17, 1961, captioned "Stabilization Advisory Committee on Cotton." The contents of this memorandum are as follows:

"Development of long-range programs to help assure prosperity and stability for cotton producers is a matter of considerable public interest and is of deep concern to the Department of Agriculture. Adequate supplies of cotton products to meet all needs at satisfactory prices to producers and reasonable costs to consumers, and at lower costs to the Government are clearly in the public interest.

"In order to bring the experience and the knowledge of producers and representatives of the cotton industry to bear on these problems, I am establishing an Advisory Committee on Cotton under the provisions of the Agricultural Act of 1961.

"The Committee will serve for an indefinite period at my discretion, and will meet at my request to advise the Department of Agriculture on legislative proposals and other matters connected with cotton. Funds will be available for reimbursement of travel and other official expenses of committee members.

"Dr. Alexander Nunn, Birmingham, Alabama, will be the Chairman of the Committee. Dr. James T. Ralph, Assistant Secretary, will be the official Department of Agriculture representative, Joseph A. Moss, Director, Cotton Division, ASCS, will be Deputy Department of Agriculture representative, [redacted] [redacted] Price Division, ASCS, will be the Executive Secretary. Members of the Committee will be:

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"(Names will be added when investigative check is completed.)"

Mr. Murphy pointed out at the time of the original draft of this memorandum on November 17, 1961, the names of individuals to be appointed to the newly formed committee had not been selected. He said this would explain why at the bottom of the memorandum it was indicated that "Names will be added when investigative check is completed." He said, according to his best recollection, the names of the members to the newly formed committee were not selected and incorporated in the final draft of the memorandum until sometime in January, 1962.

In this connection, Mr. Murphy furnished to the Agents a second memorandum bearing the date of November 17, 1961, which carried the same phraseology of the first memorandum. The latter memorandum set forth the names of 33 members including that of Estes and was signed by Orville L. Freeman, Secretary.

In commenting on the status of Estes, et al, as members of the Advisory Committee on Cotton (newly formed committee), he furnished for inspection a report on a meeting of this committee held in Washington, D. C., on November 20 through 22, 1961. Estes' name was shown as a member of the committee from Texas along with other members from Texas and other states. He said although the identity of the committee members was shown that actually the formal appointments had not been made, as will be indicated on the original draft of the Secretary's memorandum dated November 17, 1961, above.

Also, to support his statement, Mr. Murphy furnished a press release of the Stabilization Advisory Committee on Cotton dated November 22, 1961, issued through the facilities of the USDA. This release carried the comment "The Committee was asked to meet at this time because of the immediate need to consider possible recommendations to the next session of Congress, although the formal appointment of Committee members is still in process in the Department."

Mr. Murphy advised that the committee was in progress in Washington, D. C., from November 20 to 22, 1961, and on November 21, 1961, there was furnished to him two communications, both dated November 21, 1961, both of which are being fully set forth hereinafter.

"To: Joseph M. Robertson, Administrative
Assistant Secretary

From: John E. Francis, Chief, Review and Adjudi-
cation Division

Subject: Billie Sol Estes - Candidate for Proposed
National Cotton Stabilization Advisory
Committee

"The attached memorandum summary from [redacted]
[redacted] of an Agricultural Stabilization Conserva-
tion Service Investigation made regarding subject is
sufficiently derogatory in nature that I recommend
against subject's appointment.

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"I realize that he has not yet been tried for
the alleged offenses and may not be guilty of any
wrongdoing. However, since the matter has been
referred for consideration of prosecution it appears
advisable to drop his name from consideration until
this matter is cleared up.

"Please note also the brief digest of an FBI
file attached *RE BILLIE SOL ESTES PECOS, TEXAS POSSI-
BLE FEDERAL RESERVE ACT."

"It would be appreciated if you would indicate
whether you concur in this recommendation.

"/s/ John E. Francis

"Attachments

(In handwriting)

"Mr. Francis [redacted]

12/22/61

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"Mr. Francis after reviewing this entire matter
carefully with the Gen. Counsels office and after a
thorough study of the matter I think that Mr. Estes
should be appointed to this committee.

"/s/ Joe Robertson"

The second communication reads as follows:

"To: John E. Francis, Chief, Review and Adjudication Division

From: [REDACTED] Investigations Division

Subject: Billy Sol Estes - Candidate for proposed National Cotton Stabilization Advisory Committee

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"In accordance with your verbal request of November 15, 1961, the file of the Investigations Division, ASCS, was reviewed on that date regarding Mr. Billy Sol Estes. [REDACTED] Investigations Division, ASCS, Washington, D. C., made available the ASCS investigative file dated October 27, 1961. It disclosed that one hundred and sixteen displaced cotton producers in Texas, Oklahoma, and Georgia made application through the Reeves and Pecos ASC County Committee to transfer a total of 3,123 acres from their allotment pool to land which they had purchased from Mr. Estes in the above Texas counties, which acreage was subsequently leased to Mr. Estes, who became farm operator. These transactions were all based on a written contract which showed that the agreement was predicated upon the purchaser's successful transferring his cotton allotment from the pool to the land being purchased from Mr. Estes. The contract also contained a provision that Mr. Estes, as seller, would lease the land for a period of three years at an annual rental equivalent, in most cases, to \$50 per acre of the pool allotment. An additional provision of the contract specified that in the event the purchaser was unable to make the first installment to Mr. Estes on a vendor's lien note, executed in connection with a Warranty Deed and Deed of Trust, the property would be returned to the seller and the purchaser would be released from all personal liability.

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"The C&I investigator interviewed 23 holders of such contracts in Oklahoma and only three maintained that they were making bona fide purchase of land and transfer of allotment. Six producers admitted the

transactions were entered into solely for the purpose of selling the allotment. The remainder were noncommittal but admitted that the transfer would benefit someone other than themselves.

"Seventeen Texas producers were interviewed and only two producers maintained that they were engaged in a bona fide transaction and five admitted the transactions were entered into solely for the purpose of selling their allotment.

"Six displaced Georgia owners were interviewed and three said that they had no intention of purchasing land and transferred their land only to obtain the lease payment for their allotment. Three maintained that there was no fraud intended.

"Fourteen Alabama producers were interviewed and five displaced owners said that they had no intention of purchasing land from Mr. Estes and entered into the contract merely to obtain lease payment for the allotment.

"Mr. Estes has maintained, through his attorney, that prior to entering into these transactions they had discussed the entire procedure and regulations with County and State ASC officials and a representative of the Washington office, J. Taylor Allen, Provo, Utah, former Southwest Area Director, ASCS, who assured them that the procedure conformed with the regulations in every respect; that they had been told that the contract to purchase was a matter which involved only the two parties and would be of no concern to ASCS officials. Mr. Estes and his lawyer maintained that the purchaser is a bona fide owner of the land.

"The C&I investigative report has been referred to the General Counsel's Office for their consideration.

"/s/

[Redacted Signature]

Mr. Murphy stated that although Joseph M. Robertson, Administrative Assistant Secretary, USDA, recommended that Estes be appointed to the committee that actually he, Murphy, had the final say in this appointment and did, in fact, appoint Estes to the committee.

Mr. Murphy said during the period of time, both before and after the committee meeting of November 20 - 22, 1961, he was learning about the Estes cotton allotment problem in Texas and had made inquiries concerning this matter and had, in fact, discussed the situation with John C. Bagwell, General Counsel, USDA. In this connection, he pointed out that the General Counsel had submitted to him a memorandum dated December 15, 1961, pointing out the various areas involved.

Mr. Murphy commented in connection with the appointment of Estes, which he believes was not formally made until sometime in January, 1962, that he was fully cognizant of the situation involving the Estes cotton allotments in Texas. He said he considered the matter to be a civil matter and not a criminal one. He said in his opinion the problem relating to the transfer of cotton allotments was not of a nature which would make it necessary to drop Estes from the old committee or would preclude him from being appointed to the newly formed committee. He elaborated in this connection that the matter of his appointment to the newly formed committee was in effect a technical one and his being dropped or his services being terminated from the old committee never formally took place.

Mr. Murphy said in making the decision to appoint Estes to the newly formed committee he felt the matter involving the cotton allotments had not been resolved at that time, although it was known to him allotment notices for 1962 would not be granted to him. He said by not appointing him to the committee it would involve the question of dropping him from the committee which he had been working with in the past.

Mr. Murphy, in commenting on the matter of the 1962 allotment, stated that he was fully aware that Estes did not receive the allotment and, in fact, stated he participated in and was chiefly responsible for the cancellation of the 1962 allotments.

Mr. Murphy advised the only derogatory information that had come to his attention at the time the decision was made to appoint him to the newly formed committee was the situation in Texas concerning his cotton allotments and also advice received from the Federal Bureau of Investigation to the effect that Estes had been investigated for possible violation of the Federal Reserve Act. He observed in the latter matter, the United States Attorney had declined to authorize prosecution.

In conclusion, Mr. Murphy advised Estes' appointment to the newly formed committee was in effect a continuing membership from his service on the committee to which he was appointed in July, 1961.

He also said he was the responsible party who made the decision to leave him on the committee after considering the cotton acreage allotment transfer controversy. He said at the time there was no evidence that Estes was guilty of a criminal offense in connection with the allotment transfers.

The interview with Mr. Murphy was held from 10:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., at which time he stated he had other pressing commitments for the remainder of the day. He suggested that the interview continue at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 17, 1962. The interview will resume on May 17, 1962.

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recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Malone _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

TO :

MR. BELMONT *W*

DATE: May 15, 1962

FROM :

A. ROSEN *AR*

SUBJECT:

BILLIE SOL ESTES
 INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
 STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

This is to recommend that the attached letter to the Attorney General be sent as part of our program of keeping him advised of current investigation in captioned case.

WASHINGTON PROJECT

As a result of press releases by State Attorney General Wilson, the implication was drawn that extensive money was channeled into a "Washington project." The implication was to the effect that this was Washington, D. C. The letter sets out information to the effect that the "Washington project" was an Estes ^{HOUSING} project in Spokane, Washington.

The letter summarizes a lengthy interview with Dr. James T. Ralph in which he admits making telephone calls with a credit card but says he did not know the card belonged to Estes. He also states that he received a ticket to the Democratic Party dinner on January 20, 1962, from Bill Orrick, Assistant Attorney General of the U. S. Department of Justice which was used by his father-in-law.

The Attorney General is being advised of another interview with N. Battle Hales who has continually alleged that with access to Department of Agriculture files he could prove favoritism to Estes.

EX-105 REC-48 29-28704-390

The arrangements made with the Department of Agriculture at the Department's request are set out together with the fact that Hales still did not give us any concrete information.

ACTION

5 MAY 18 1962

With reference to the implication of Mr. Orrick of the Department of Justice, the Department will be requested to advise whether he should be interviewed by the FBI or by Department of Justice personnel. This will be taken up with Assistant Attorney General Miller.

It is recommended that the attached letter be sent to the Attorney General.

Enclosure *5-15-62*

1 - Mr. Evans

1 - Mr. DeLoach

TWC:ljb (8)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES
ITSP - BRIBERY

DATE: May 11, 1962

Tolson ☒

Belmont ☒

Mohr ☒

Callahan ☒

Conrad ☒

DeLoach ☒

Evans ☒

Malone ☒

Rosen ☒

Sullivan ☒

Tavel ☒

Trotter ☒

Tele. Room ☒

Holmes ☒

Gandy ☒

PURPOSE:

Due to the many facets of the Estes case, many of which are not within the Bureau's jurisdiction, this memorandum is being prepared to point out the efforts and care being taken to conduct the investigation so as not to become involved if at all possible with administrative failures within other agencies.

BEST PROCEDURE:

The ideal situation would be if we could proceed as we are legally entitled to under Section 311a, Title 5, USC, which requires Federal agencies to conduct their own administrative investigations and refer criminal violations by Federal employees to the Department of Justice. This, supplemented with the fact that Government agencies are already under a legal obligation to refer to us any violation within our jurisdiction, would be the best way to operate.

There is no question that Estes has violated ordinances, laws and/or regulations coming under the primary jurisdiction of many state and Federal agencies. It is highly probable that Estes has profited by some unnecessary delays, if not actual favoritism toward him, within other departments. The Agriculture Department, for example, has finally publicly admitted delay in handling Estes' matters. It is known that this delay operated to Estes' favor. It would seem incredible that a man can build assets in excess of \$30,000,000 without paying any

REC- 48

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. Mohr

TWC:jhm
(10)

246
50 MAY 22 1962

EX-105

MAY 18 1962

Belmont might feel in
close touch with this case &
resolve questions arising
promptly. I don't want
a recurrence of the steel
situation. N.Y.

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
Re: Billie Sol Estes

income tax and not be detected. This is certainly contrary to the experience of the normal tax payer.

EXCEPTIONS TO PROTECT BUREAU:

As much as we would like to adhere strictly to handling those matters which are our primary responsibility, we are and will be continually forced to make exceptions.

An example exists in the case of N. Battle Hales, a Staff Assistant of the Department of Agriculture. Hales made a statement to the effect that certain documents under custody of the Department of Agriculture would substantiate his allegations of favoritism to Estes. We originally tried to have the Department of Agriculture review its files as they should have done and furnish the necessary documents and specific information in reports to the Department of Justice.

The problem involved is that we cannot have Agents of the FBI review the files of the Department of Agriculture and be held responsible for any misdemeanor, regulation violation or technical violation of laws applying only to Agriculture since our Agents do not have the background information necessary. However, in the Hales case, we carefully weighed the matter and finally resolved it in favor of having the Agents get possession of the specific documents named by Hales and to interview him concerning those documents. It was felt that this would best protect the Bureau's interests.

Similarly, exceptions will have to be made when a specific request is received from the Department for investigation which we would normally challenge. The matter of the political implications in this matter is such that it will only be if the request from the Department was completely idiotic (as could happen) that we will resist following through.

As it relates to the substantive violation, the FBI investigation while voluminous, can be directed toward our ultimate aim which is conviction of Estes and all his associates. By moving rapidly in the initial stages before this thing became a political football, we were able to

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

arrest Estes and keep him out of circulation long enough to cause the collapse of his scheme, and he and three others are presently under indictment for violation of the Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property Statute (ITSP).

We have not stopped there. We have continued our investigation to the end that we can anticipate additional indictments under the ITSP Statute.

We were early to realize a possible connection between the Commercial Solvents Corporation, a large New York firm, which seems to have loaned millions of dollars to Estes without or despite a credit investigation. We have obtained complete details of Estes' operations with the Commercial Solvent Corporation pursuant to Department request and have furnished them to the Department. Department has now instructed that we take no further action regarding Commercial Solvent Corporation at this time.

We have had to compete not only with the problems set out above, but with practically every newspaper of any importance in the United States. State Attorney General Wilson of Texas, as part of his campaign for the Governorship of Texas, held a series of hearings. Periodically he would release information to the press in such a slanted fashion that after being re-worked by reporters it became banner headlines. At this point there is no question but what some persons within Agriculture accepted gifts from Estes. It is probably true that Estes contributed to campaigns; however, to date there is no proof of a bribery.

ACTION TAKEN:

As above, we will continue our present efforts to operate under the theory that other agencies must police their own records and refer violations to us. However, every request that we breach our policy will be carefully considered and submitted with appropriate recommendations. It is anticipated that the situation is such that we shall resolve any doubt in favor of investigation rather than take any chances that at a later date an attempt could be made to place any stigma on the efforts of the FBI.

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

It is obvious that due to the excellent reputation enjoyed by the Director and through him the FBI itself, that the people of the United States, no matter what is said about the law, will depend upon us to resolve this unwholesome mess. As a result we are now handling aspects of this which are not under the Bureau's jurisdiction. Extensive manpower both in the field and at the Seat of Government is being utilized.

The Department of Agriculture has attempted most ineptly to handle this matter by trying to try the case in the newspapers. We wrote to the Attorney General and to Mr. Freeman on two occasions setting the records straight concerning press releases. The reaction on the part of the press toward the Department of Agriculture indicates that the press is completely aware of where the blame lies in the Estes case. However, we will continue as we spot erroneous remarks by the Department of Agriculture, to bring them to the Director's attention together with appropriate recommendations.

RECORD:

We are making every effort to make it clear on the record of the proceedings in this case that the FBI is not only carrying out all its responsibilities, but is going beyond that when necessary. From the very beginning as reports have arrived at the Bureau, they have been hand carried to the appropriate official in the Department. This was believed necessary since in the past, normal routing procedures within the Department of Justice have resulted in extensive delays. We will continue to make certain that the proper official in the Department receives copies of our reports as quickly as they are received in the Bureau. In this connection, we have continually set short deadlines for specific phases of the investigation, not only for investigation, but also for submission of reports.

It might be well to summarize at this point the various communications other than reports which have been sent to the Department and/or the Attorney General.

Investigation in this case was initiated by Bureau instructions on March 20, 1962. The Bureau specifically pointed out to the field the desirability of establishing one violation, since that would reveal the fraudulent pattern and result in early prosecution. In this connection the Department was advised of all the allegations that we were initiating investigation of, on March 20, the same date that we advised the field.

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

The instructions to the field proved accurate in that by March 29, we were able to have prosecution authorized against Billie Sol Estes and three of his associates.

On March 30, 1962, we were able to advise the Attorney General by letter of the arrest of the subjects.

On April 18, 1962, we advised the Attorney General that the subjects had been indicted, and brought to his attention allegations involving Secretary of Agriculture Freeman and Vice President Lyndon Johnson. On April 18, 1962, Mr. DeLoach discussed the Johnson allegations with Walter Jenkins, Administrative Assistant to the Vice President.

Also on April 18, 1962, we contacted Secretary Freeman and advised him of the allegations that had been made. We were therefore able to advise the Attorney General by letter dated April 19, 1962, of the denial of the allegations and also that no further inquiries would be made unless he instructed to the contrary (which he did not do).

On April 20, 1962, we directed a letter to the Attorney General pointing out that we had checked to determine whether the allegations made against Freeman and Johnson were well known. Our informant had advised us they were not.

On April 20, 1962, by letter to the Attorney General we reviewed the matter of N. Battle Hales, Staff Assistant of the Department of Agriculture. (This involved allegations by Hales that there had been favoritism in the Department and allegations by the Department of Agriculture that Hales was the possible source of information to the press). It should be noted that Hales refused to discuss the possible divulgence of official information from the Agriculture files to outsiders and this was brought to the attention of the Attorney General on April 20, 1962, by letter and was also brought to Mr. Freeman's attention.

By letter dated April 23, 1962, we were able to furnish the Attorney General with information from Neiman-Marcus Department Store files as well as information concerning an "emergency" transfer of currency by Estes.

By letter dated April 25, 1962, we told the Attorney General about our handling of the Hales matter as it concerned his possible divulgence of material to the press. At this point Hales had been interviewed and denied the allegation and we pointed out to the Attorney General in the absence of any specific information no further investigation would be conducted.

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

By telephone call from Assistant Director Evans on April 25, 1962, and corresponding letter on April 26, 1962, we specifically advised Secretary Freeman that any action within his Department concerning Dr. Ralph (an Agriculture employee who accepted gifts from Estes) would not interfere with any action the FBI would be taking or had taken.

By letter dated April 26, 1962, we advised the Attorney General of our action in notifying Freeman as above. We also pointed out that we were supplying the Criminal Division of the Department copies of our reports and had advised Secretary Freeman that the Department would be in the best position to furnish him with any material. We also requested an opinion as to possible bribery violation at the earliest possible opportunity. (The Department has advised that they cannot reach a decision as yet but are still reviewing the matter).

By letter to the Department April 27, 1962, we confirmed to the Department information received orally on April 26, 1962. The Department had pointed out that they would review the material being received from Agriculture and if investigation was warranted they would request it.

By letter dated May 1, 1962, we advised the Attorney General that an official in the Department of Agriculture had advised the press that the FBI had asked Agriculture to continue its inquiry into Departmental relations involving Estes. We pointed out to the Attorney General that this was completely false.

By letter May 1, 1962, to the Department we confirmed the fact that we would not investigate any Congressman until specific requests were received from the Department.

By letter dated May 1, 1962, to Secretary Freeman and the Attorney General, we pointed out another inaccuracy in an Agriculture press release. This was to the effect that Agriculture was waiting for FBI action before taking administrative action against Dr. Ralph, an employee who accepted gifts from Estes. We pointed out the falsity of this.

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

By letter to the Department May 4, 1962, we advised them of the results of a discreet inquiry which they had requested by memorandum dated April 27, 1962. We were able to discreetly obtain information concerning the death of one Henry Marshall, who died on June 3, 1961. Marshall was connected with an investigation of Estes at that time.

By letter May 5, 1962, and subsequent correspondence we confirmed with the Department matters concerning obtaining the results of the court of inquiry hearings held in Texas (The Department reversed its field since they originally stated they would obtain them). We immediately initiated action to have the material reproduced in Texas, flown directly to the Bureau and given to the Department on 5/9/62.

By letter May 7, 1962, we advised the Attorney General that in response to a request for investigation limited to an interview of William E. Morris (an employee of Agriculture who accepted gifts from Estes) Morris had refused to be interviewed but we furnished the Attorney General with pertinent material obtained from Morris through a Veteran's Preference hearing.

By letter dated May 8, 1962, we advised Mr. Freeman of the material we had received from his Department on Morris. This is contrary to normal procedure since Freeman is a party of interest, however, the matter was carefully weighed and it was thought that a letter would prevent the Department of Agriculture from changing its records.

By letter to the Department May 8, 1962, we confirmed a conference concerning N. Battle Hales and pointed out in detail the extent to which we would go in interviewing Hales.

By letter dated May 9, 1962, we advised the Attorney General rumors to the effect that an airplane supposedly owned by Vice President Johnson was, in fact, owned by a Texas company.

ACTION CONCERNING RECORD

We intend to continue our policy of hand-carrying reports to the Department and confirming in writing any action taken as a result of conferences with the Department.

EX-105

PLAIN TEXT

5/11/62

REC- 57

TELETYPE

URGENT

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI
MAY 11 4 20 PM '62

TO SACS DALLAS
SAN ANTONIO
EL PASO
WASHINGTON FIELD

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

BILLIE SOL ESTES. INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY
DASH BRIBERY.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED INVESTIGATION BE CONDUCTED BY THE
FBI INTO THE DEATH OF HENRY H. MARSHALL AND GEORGE A. KRUTILEK.
OFFICES RECEIVING THIS COMMUNICATION SHOULD PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY SO
AS TO IF POSSIBLE AVOID INQUIRIES FROM THE PRESS OR REPORTS
INDICATING FBI THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATING THIS MATTER. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] OF THE DEPARTMENT HAS ADVISED THAT HE HAS THE U. S. DEPARTMENT
OF AGRICULTURE PERSONNEL FILE OF MARSHALL IN HIS OFFICE, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

THE FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION IS REQUESTED COLON
ONE QUALIFICATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL PAREN CORONER OR DOCTOR END
PAREN WHO DETERMINED CAUSE OF DEATH OF EACH.

TWO BASIS ON WHICH RULING WAS MADE.

THREE WHAT EVIDENCE DID HE HAVE.

FOUR WHAT EVIDENCE IS NOW AVAILABLE SUCH AS BULLETS, GUNS, ETC.

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

GEB/lmc/jms

(9)

RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 11 1962

MAIL ROOM [] TELETYPE UNIT []

TELETYPE

INITIALED
DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

FIVE DID LOCAL POLICE INVESTIGATE DEATHS.

SIX DETERMINE IF BODIES IN DECOMPOSED CONDITION AT TIME BODIES WERE FOUND.

SEVEN REVIEW LOCAL POLICE INVESTIGATION:

EIGHT REVIEW NEWSPAPER MORGUE FOR ARTICLES WHICH APPEARED AT TIME OF DEATHS.

NINE DATES OF BURIAL OF EACH.

WFO CONTACT

DEPARTMENT

b6
b7C

OF JUSTICE, AND REVIEW PERSONNEL FILE OF MARSHALL.

OFFICES CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION REGARDING THIS MATTER SHOULD ADVISE INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED THAT WE ARE MAKING INQUIRIES IN THIS MATTER AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. LETTERHEAD MEMO SHOULD BE SUBMITTED REFLECTING RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION.

~~BUDED MAY SIXTEEN NEXT~~

THIS INQUIRY SHOULD BE CONDUCTED WITH VIEW TO ESTABLISHING WHETHER THERE IS ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN MARSHALL'S DEATH, THE DEATH OF MR. GEORGE A. KRUTILEK, AND THE ACTIVITIES OF BILLIE SOL ESTES.

BUDED MAY SIXTEEN NEXT.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 11 1964

TELETYPE

8-05 PM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 11 1962

TELETYPE

URGENT 5-11-62 8-05 PM RAM

TO SACS DALLAS, SAN ANTONIO, EL PASO & WASHINGTON FIELD
FROM DIRECTOR 2 P

BILLIE SOL ESTES. INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY
DASH BRIBERY.

THE DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED INVESTIGATION BE CONDUCTED BY THE
FBI INTO THE DEATH OF HENRY H. MARSHALL AND GEORGE A. KRUTILEK.
OFFICES RECEIVING THIS COMMUNICATION SHOULD PROCEED CAUTIOUSLY SO
AS TO IF POSSIBLE AVOID INQUIRIES FROM THE PRESS OR REPORTS INDICAT-
ING FBI THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATING THIS MATTER. [REDACTED] OF
THE DEPARTMENT HAS ADVISED THAT HE HAS THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRI-
CULTURE PERSONNEL FILE OF MARSHALL IN HIS OFFICE, [REDACTED]

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b7c

[REDACTED] DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

THE FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION IS REQUESTED COLON
ONE QUALIFICATIONS OF INDIVIDUAL PAREN CORONER OR DOCTOR END
PAREN WHO DETERMINED CAUSE OF DEATH OF EACH.

TWO BASIS ON WHICH RULING WAS MADE.

THREE WHAT EVIDENCE DID HE HAVE.

FOUR WHAT EVIDENCE IS NOW AVAILABLE SUCH AS BULLETS, GUNS, ETC.

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

FIVE DID LOCAL POLICE INVESTIGATE DEATHS.

SIX DETERMINE IF BODIES IN DECOMPOSED CONDITION AT TIME BODIES WERE FOUND.

SEVEN REVIEW LOCAL POLICE INVESTIGATION.

EIGHT REVIEW NEWSPAPER MORGUE FOR ARTICLES WHICH APPEARED AT TIME OF DEATHS.

NINE DATES OF BURIAL OF EACH.

WFO CONTACT DEPART-
MENT OF JUSTICE, AND REVIEW PERSONNEL FILE OF MARSHALL.

OFFICES CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION REGARDING THIS MATTER SHOULD ADVISE INDIVIDUALS CONTACTED THAT WE ARE MAKING INQUIRIES IN THIS MATTER AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. LETTERHEAD MEMO SHOULD BE SUBMITTED REFLECTING RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION.

THIS INQUIRY SHOULD BE CONDUCTED WITH VIEW TO ESTABLISHING WHETHER THERE IS ANY CONNECTION BETWEEN MARSHALL/S DEATH, THE DEATH OF MR. GEORGE A. KRUTILEK, AND THE ACTIVITIES OF BILLIE SOL ESTES.

BUDED MAY SIXTEEN NEXT.

ACK & H O L D PLS ALL STATS

DL OK FBI ~~DL~~ FLL

SA OK FBI ~~SA~~ AAC

EP OK FBI ~~EP~~ ST

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b7c

Memorandum

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Evans	
Mr. Malone	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

to : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: MAY 9 1962

FROM : Herbert J. Miller, Jr., Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division

HJM:EL
29-76-381

SUBJECT: Billie Sol Estes - Henry H. Marshall and Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property - Bribery

This will refer to your memorandum dated May 4, 1962, concerning the above captioned Henry H. Marshall. This memorandum replied to our memorandum of April 27, 1962, requesting that a discreet inquiry be made into the facts of record surrounding Marshall's death. At the time of our request we had been informed that Marshall was a USDA official who had dealings with Estes or his representatives regarding the cotton allotment program.

Your May 4, 1962 memorandum indicates that Marshall was a USDA official at the time of his death. It also indicated that his death certificate was dated June 12, 1961. This certificate disclosed that Marshall died of "gun shot" wounds - self-inflicted - suicide - 4 to 5 P.M. 6-3-61. Your report further informed that Marshall was shot five times by a .22 caliber bolt action rifle while on his farm at Franklin, Texas.

This will confirm an oral discussion between SA Thomas Curran [redacted] of the Department this date in which we indicated that we have now determined a full scale inquiry into the death of Mr. Marshall is necessary. This inquiry should be conducted with a view to establishing whether there is any connection between Marshall's death and the activities of Billie Sol Estes. In this connection we would also like a similar inquiry to be made into the death of Mr. George A. Krutilek, an El Paso accountant, who was connected with the sale of anhydrous ammonia tanks later leased to Estes. (report of SA [redacted] 4/12/62, pp. 150, 152, 171, 200-204; also New York Times, 5/4/62, and Washington Daily News, 5/9/62, p.2).

For your information the USDA has made available to the Department the personnel file of [redacted] Marshall. This file is now in the possession of [redacted]

REC-57

5 MAY 18 1962

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

May 16, 1962

Airtel

To: SAC, Washington Field
From: Director, FBI
BILLIE SOL ESTES
ITSP - BRIBERY

Reference is made to WFO airtel, 5/14/62, which enclosed a letterhead memorandum concerning the statements made by Dr. James T. Ralph. It is noted that starting with the last paragraph on page six, it is set out that Ralph flew to California on an Air Force Reserve flight on personal and National Guard business.

It would appear that the reason for his trip was a visit to [redacted]

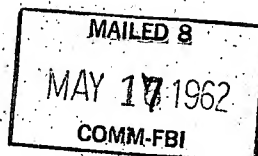
Investigation should be conducted to determine whether or not a possible fraud exists.

This confirms Bureau telephone call 5/15/62.

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REG-1

EX-105



29-28704-393
MAY 17 1962

TWC:lmc
(4)

3 MAY 22 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☒

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DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

F B I

Date: 5/14/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

ST
Q

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: ~~SAN~~, HOUSTON (58-111) (P)

RE: ~~BILLIE SOL ESTES~~
ITSP-BRIBERY
(OO: DALLAS)

RE: Dallas teletype to Houston, dated 5/11/62.

Enclosed to the Bureau is a letterhead memorandum in quintuplicate regarding investigation at Bryan, Texas, regarding the death of HENRY H. MARSHALL.

Enclosed to the Dallas Division are 45 enclosures consisting of nine copies each of five FD-302's containing information from which the above referred to letterhead memorandum is based.

Enclosed to the San Antonio and El Paso Divisions are five (5) enclosures each consisting of one copy each of the above referred to five FD-302's. These are submitted for information purposes.

For the additional information of Dallas, San Antonio, and El Paso Divisions, contact with Texas Highway Patrol, Department of Public Safety, Bryan, Texas, which covers Robertson County, indicates no investigation conducted by Department of Public Safety concerning death of MARSHALL.

EX-105 REC-57

Investigation continuing.

ESTES MAY HAVE SUICIDE TENDENCIES.

- 3 - Bureau (Enc. 5) (AM)
- 2 - Dallas (Enc. 45) (58-1118) (AM)
- 1 - San Antonio (Enc. 5) (Info) (87-5025) (AM)
- 1 - El Paso (Enc. 5) (Info) (AM)
- 1 - Houston

12 MAY 15 1962

62 MAY 23 1962

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M

Per _____

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN 89-1073-



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Houston, Texas

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

May 14, 1962

Re: BILLIE SOL ESTES
Interstate Transportation Of
Stolen Property-Bribery

The following investigation was conducted on
May 12, 1962:

A review of past issues of the Bryan Daily Eagle revealed the following articles pertaining to the death of HENRY H. MARSHALL:

Issue dated June 5, 1961, contained an article on page one wherein it was announced that MARSHALL was discovered shot to death on June 3, 1961. It reported that on June 3, 1961, MARSHALL drove to his ranch located north of Franklin, Texas, in a pickup truck. He was accompanied by his [redacted]

[redacted] The boy was later left at a farm house while MARSHALL drove off into the pasture. It was when he failed to return for [redacted] at 4:00 PM as planned that a search was started. MARSHALL'S body was then discovered by [redacted]

[redacted] The article observed that the circumstances of the death were still being investigated by Robertson County Sheriff HOWARD STEGALL and [redacted]

[redacted] It was noted that MARSHALL suffered five bullet wounds from a .22 caliber rifle and such a rifle was found by the body. The tentative ruling of death was announced as "Killed by gunshot wounds from undetermined sources."

The article set forth that members of MARSHALL'S family are quoted as reporting that MARSHALL was in poor health and subject to depression. It was concluded that funeral services would be conducted at 2:00 PM, June 5, 1961, at the First Methodist Church, Bryan, Texas, with burial in the Franklin City Cemetery, Franklin, Texas.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

29-2 8704-394
ENCLOSURE

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Issue dated June 6, 1961, contained an article on page one wherein it was set forth that no new developments had occurred in the MARSHALL case.

Issue dated June 8, 1961, contained an article on page one wherein it was announced that Robertson County officials had a telephone report from the Department of Public Safety, Austin, Texas, confirming the fact that powder burns were detected on the clothing worn by MARSHALL at the time of his death.

[redacted] Shipper's Texaco Service
Station. 3410 Texas Avenue. [redacted]

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[redacted] advised that he had been a friend of the HENRY MARSHALL family for many years.

At about 10:00 AM on Sunday, June 4, 1961, he received a telephone call from [redacted] asking him to come over to her house immediately. Upon doing so, he was asked by [redacted] was aware of the death and upon being advised that he was, [redacted] then stated that "I simply can't believe it" and she then asked [redacted] to "help us find out what happened." She then requested that he talk with [redacted] who was on the premises at the time.

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[redacted] then interviewed [redacted] and was told that [redacted] had discovered the body of MARSHALL the previous afternoon lying in a pasture on a ranch owned by MARSHALL near Franklin, Texas. [redacted] advised that he worked on this ranch and was employed by MARSHALL on a part time basis. [redacted] stated that he resides in Franklin.

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[redacted] continued that [redacted] thereafter explained how he had found the body with a .22 caliber rifle positioned about 7 to 8 feet away with the barrel pointing at MARSHALL. [redacted] further reported that MARSHALL appeared to be in good spirits the day of June 3, 1961, and had paid him his wages for the week. [redacted] explained to [redacted] that he couldn't

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understand what had happened and observed that about a week earlier MARSHALL had chased off of his place several Negro men who were trespassing or hunting on the premises. The Negroes were believed to be from the Dallas, Texas, area.

[redacted] continued that during the interview with [redacted] he observed a pickup truck outside the MARSHALL home and [redacted] replied that had been the truck in which MARSHALL had driven into the pasture at the time of his death. [redacted] requested to examine the contents of the truck and the only item he found was a slip of paper containing figures in the amount of about \$30.00 which were presumed to have been written by MARSHALL and were believed to be payroll figures for some part time help he had hired previously.

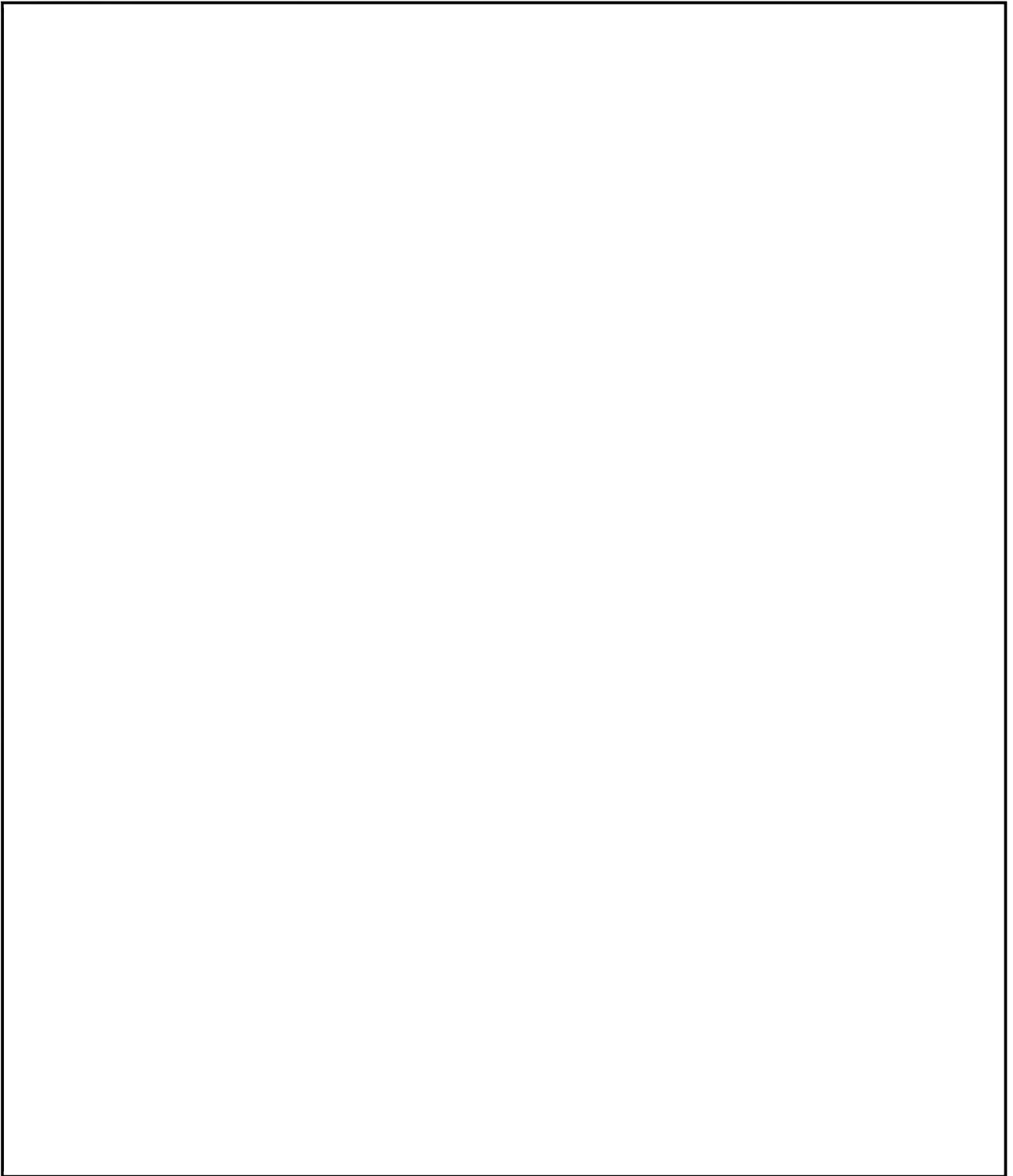
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[redacted] observed that he conducted no further investigation into this matter, but that during subsequent contacts with [redacted] she has continued to insist that her husband did not kill himself.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] then proceeded to telephone the [REDACTED] and inquired of him what verdict had been returned, or was contemplated being returned concerning MARSHALL'S death. [REDACTED] replied that he "guessed it was suicide" and when [REDACTED] allegedly retorted that the body had five bullet wounds and was [REDACTED] aware of this fact, [REDACTED] alleged "hummed and hawed" and never answered the inquiry. [REDACTED] then allegedly replied that he "was told by the Sheriff that it was suicide" and it "sure looked like it." [REDACTED] then allegedly told [REDACTED] that as [REDACTED] any decision regarding death was to be made by him and no one else. JONES also pointed out that a hasty decision made without evidence or facts could possibly harm the decedent's family regarding insurance claims, reputation and etc. [REDACTED] allegedly replied that he hadn't considered those possibilities and then inquired of [REDACTED] as to what should be done. [REDACTED] that there was no haste necessary in returning a verdict of death and that [REDACTED] did not require one for at least 72 hours. [REDACTED] then promised [REDACTED] that he would withhold his verdict of suicide pending investigation. [REDACTED] concluded his conversation by informing [REDACTED] that he [REDACTED] would prepare the death certificate in its proper form and would remove the suicide verdict and mail it the next day to [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] continued that several days later he received in the mail a death certificate from [REDACTED] wherein the verdict of death was determined to be a suicide. [REDACTED] stated that he immediately telephoned the [REDACTED] and demanded to know the reason for such and why had [REDACTED] reversed himself from the promise made the night of

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June 3, 1962. [] allegedly replied that following this mentioned conversation he contacted the Sheriff, HOWARD STEGALL, and informed him of this. The Sheriff then allegedly berated [] and told him that "it had to be suicide" and then went over the "evidence" indicating such after which [] was convinced in his own mind that it was suicide and accordingly rendered a verdict of such. [] indicated that he would not change his mind in this matter.

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[redacted] stated that it was concurred in by those present that the body should have an autopsy made upon it to determine the exact cause of death. however, in an attempt to seek permission for such from [redacted] she declined such. The body was thereafter removed to St. Joseph's Hospital, Bryan, where X-ray's were made of the torso, following which the body was returned to the funeral home.

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Services were conducted on Monday, June 5, 1961, and the body interred in the Franklin City Cemetery that afternoon.. The body is confined in a steel coffin, sealed, which lies within a vault.

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[REDACTED]

On May 14, 1962 [REDACTED] Texas b6
Highway Patrol, Department of Public Safety, Bryan, Texas, b7C
advised that his office, which covers Robertson County, Texas,
did not conduct any investigation concerning the death of HENRY
H. MARSHALL on June 3, 1961, or thereafter. [REDACTED] advised that
he contacted [REDACTED] Department of Public
Safety, Hearne, Texas (Robertson County) and was told that [REDACTED]
conducted no investigation whatsoever in the above matter.

Mr. Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

May 15, 1962

Director, FBI

LT
P
BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

R3-
This is to confirm a request for investigation by [redacted] of the Department to Special Agents Thomas W. Curran and Fletcher D. Thompson on May 14, 1962.

[redacted] requested that investigation be conducted into the "Washington Project" phase of the Estes case.

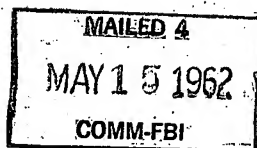
The "Washington Project" has been referred to by the Texas Attorney General, Will Wilson. It was reported that in furtherance of this project \$235,000 was withdrawn from bank accounts by Estes during 1961 and early 1962.

W *W* *W*

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans

TWC:bm:ljs
(10) *W*

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
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Callahan _____
Conrad _____
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Gandy _____



MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

W *W* *W*

MAY 12 2 21 PM '62
FBI
REC'D MAY 17 1962

REC-1

W

29-28704-395

19 MAY 17 1962

The Attorney General

May 10, 1962

Director, FBI

1 - Mr. Belmont
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. Malley
1 - Mr. Welte
1 - Mr. Curran

BILLIE COL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIEFING

This is to advise you further concerning the telephone calls made by Mr. James T. Ralph on February 10, 1962, which were charged to the telephone of Billie Col Estes by use of his credit card number.

[redacted] Eastern [redacted] Association, [redacted], Montana, on May 15, 1962, advised that he had been contacted by Ralph on February 15, 1962, and informed that he had been "fired" by Secretary of Agriculture Freeman for using poor judgment in things he said in speeches and asked [redacted] to intercede with Senator Mike Mansfield, Democrat from Montana, on his behalf. [redacted] in fact, sent a telegram to Senator Mansfield in this regard.

Another call was made to [redacted] S. & J. Gallo Winery, Modesto, California, who advised that Dr. Ralph contacted him in February and informed him that he had been asked to resign and go to the Philippine Islands in some capacity. Dr. Ralph did not ask [redacted] to intercede on his behalf nor did he make any inquiry concerning any possible employment. In fact, [redacted] could not recall the reason for Dr. Ralph's call to him.

It was ascertained that [redacted] Calcot Limited, a cotton marketing cooperative, [redacted], California, was contacted at that time and Dr. Ralph advised [redacted] that he had been relieved of his position. On being told by Dr. Ralph that he was offered a position in the Philippine Islands, he told Dr. Ralph that he should accept. No request was made by Dr. Ralph for any employment by [redacted]

It is to be noted that Dr. Ralph on interview on May 14, 1962, indicated that at the time that he had been removed as Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, he was making frantic efforts to locate new employment.

1 - The Deputy Attorney General
1 - Mr. Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

65 MAY 28 1962 TELETYPE UNIT
Mr. DeLoach

RECD - READING ROOM
MAY 15 5 22 PM '62

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MAILED 4
MAY 16 1962
COMM-FBI

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

REC-91

29-28704-396

MAY 18 1962

EX-115

F B I

Date: 5/15/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)
ATTN: FBI LABORATORY

395088

FROM: SAC, EL PASO (29-351)(P)

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES;
ET AL
ITSP - MAIL FRAUD; CONSPIRACY

OO: El Paso

Enclosed herewith to the Bureau are three check
blanks containing a total of six signature specimens of[redacted] Texas, on May 10, 1962,
advised that the contract executed about one year ago and
subsequently sold to CIT purportedly bearing his signature
was in effect a forgery.The New York Office will contact CIT and obtain
from them the original of the chattel mortgage, note, and/or
sales contract dated about one year ago, covering the
subject of anhydrous ammonia tanks and purportedly bearing
the signature of [redacted] CIT would have purchased
this contract from either Superior Manufacturing Company,
Amarillo, Texas, or the Lubbock Machine and Supply Company,
Lubbock, Texas.New York will forward one or more of these documents
to the FBI Laboratory.The FBI Laboratory, upon receipt of the documents
from the New York Office, will compare the [redacted]

- 3 - Bureau (Encls. 3) (REG. AM)
- 2 - New York
- 1 - El Paso

Approved: _____
Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

Per _____

b6
b7Cb6
b7Cb6
b7C

INDEX LAB FILES

EP 29-351

signatures appearing thereon with the known specimens enclosed herewith to determine whether the [] signatures on the loan documents were signed by some other person.

b6
b7c

The Laboratory may retain the enclosed known specimens and will, of course, return to New York the original loan documents.

ESTES MAY HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

CROSBY

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: May 17, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: REQUEST OF SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE
FREEMAN FOR A TOP INVESTIGATING AGENT

Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

While talking with Assistant Attorney General Herbert Miller he mentioned that he had received a letter from Secretary of Agriculture Freeman for the loan of a top investigating Agent of the FBI to work with an Agriculture investigator concerning a matter which appears to be contrary to Agriculture regulations in New Mexico. There is no reference to the Estes case. It concerns certifications of cotton allotment transfers.

It was explained to Mr. Miller that as he well knew, we had our own responsibilities to carry out and had to utilize all our manpower, which was constantly being pressed to the limit on many most urgent matters with which he was completely familiar. He said he knew of our reluctance to tolerate such a suggestion but he was faced with the problem of trying to answer this letter.

The following action has been taken:

Mr. Miller has furnished informally a letter dated May 15, 1962, which he received on May 16, 1962, from Secretary Freeman. A copy is attached. It concerns the Secretary's request to have an Agent work jointly with an Agriculture Department investigator concerning reported invalid certifications filed in New Mexico. There is no reference to the Estes case.

Miller would appreciate any suggestions for an answer to Freeman which he says he will prepare. He said he had told Freeman that it is not the policy of the FBI to engage in any joint investigations with other agencies. Even though Freeman understands that his request is contrary to our policy, nevertheless, he has written to Miller and requested assistance.

It is suggested that Miller be informally advised of the following observations and that he be told that whatever answer is given to Freeman should be the position of the Department of Justice.

Enc.

- 1 - Mr. Evans
- 1 - Mr. DeLoach

AR:mpd (8)

62 MAY 31 1962

REC- 50

NOT RECORDED

128 MAY 28 1962

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-25783-

Memo to Mr. Belmont from A. Rosen

It should be pointed out to Miller that if the Department of Agriculture determines that the certification by the seller is not valid and there appears to be a violation of the law, an immediate decision should be made by the Department of Agriculture as to this. If there is a violation of the law, then the facts should be submitted by Agriculture to the Department of Justice. They should set forth the particular regulation or statute which is involved so that appropriate immediate consideration can be given the matter by the Department of Justice. If in the course of the investigation being conducted by the Department of Agriculture the facilities of the FBI Laboratory may be desired to check the validity of a signature or for a document examination which might shed some light on a particular questioned item, then Agriculture should feel free to call this to the attention of the Department of Justice, and ask for assistance.

Where a Department of the Executive Branch of the Government has an investigative agency, the Department of Justice would be most reluctant to interfere with the specific duties delegated to that agency and for which duties funds have been allocated by Congress. It would be highly undesirable to engage in any joint investigative activity, particularly in a situation where a matter under inquiry pertains to a situation within the special knowledge, prerogatives, and responsibilities of the investigative agency of the Department of Agriculture, as is the situation in this case.

It is suggested therefore that in any instance where a representative of the Department of Agriculture comes across a situation which indicates a possible violation of law, that this be brought immediately to the Secretary's attention. If the facts warranted, these facts should immediately be called to the attention of the Department of Justice. Miller may also wish to point out that the Secretary may be assured that such information will receive immediate appropriate consideration by the Department of Justice.

If approved, the above information will be brought informally to Miller's attention for such action as he deems appropriate.

*Miller Rosen
to Belmont
5/17/62
AR:W*

*R A
Handled
5/17/62*

*ok. we are not going
to engage in any joint
investigation & we are
not going to assign any
agent to Agriculture.*

NA 8/29 5/14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 1 8 1962

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson_____
Mr. Belmont_____
Mr. Mohr_____
Mr. Callahan_____
Mr. Conrad_____
Mr. DeLoach_____
Mr. Evans_____
Mr. Malone_____
Mr. Rosen_____
Mr. Sullivan_____
Mr. Tavel_____
Mr. Trotter_____
Tele. Room_____
Miss Holmes_____
Miss Gandy_____

URGENT 5-18-62 3-56 PM GRJ

TO DIRECTOR, FBI /29-28704/ AND SAC, DALLAS /58-188/
FROM SAC, LOS ANGELES /58-497/ 1P
BILLIE SOL ESTES, ITSP DASH BRIBERY. OO DALLAS. RE
BUREAU TEL DATED MAY SEVENTEEN, LAST.

RESULTS OF CHECK OF THE CREDIT CARDS OF BILLIE SOL

ESTES WITH THE HILTON CORPORATION SET FORTH IN LOS ANGELES REPORT OF SA [REDACTED] DATED APRIL

TWENTY SIX, LAST, IN WHICH DALLAS WAS FURNISHED WITH

PHOTOSTAT COPIES OF ALL CHARGES.

END AND ACK PLS

WA 6-58 PM OK FBI WA WS

DL OK FBI DL EEA

63 MAY 21 1962
TU DISC

cc: [signature]

b6
b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 18 1962

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

URGENT

5/17/62

9-32

PM PDST GLC

TO DIRECTOR, FBI /29-28704/ ATTENTION, WILLIAM WELTE, GENERAL

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

SAC, DALLAS /58-188/

SAC, EL PASO /58-59/

FROM SAC, SEATTLE /87-8034/ /4P/

BILLIE SOL ESTES, AKA, ETAL , BRIBERY, COI. OO DL.

RETEL CALL FROM SAC, EL PASO TO SE TODAY CONCERNING THE QUOTE
WASHINGTON PROJECT UNQUOTE AND ACCOUNTS OPENED BY SUBJECT IN
SPOKANE AND CHENEY, WASHINGTON. INVESTIGATION REVALED FOLLOWING.

AT WASHINGTON TRUST BANK, SPOKANE , A SIGNATURE CARD FOR
ACCOUNT IN NAME BILLIE SOL ESTES WITH AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE OF [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WASH. WITH ADDITIONAL ADDRESSES OF

ACCOUNT OPENED NOV. TWENTYTHREE, NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] UNQUOTE. ANOTHER SIGNATURE

CARD LISTED NAME [REDACTED] TEX.

NO INITIAL DEPOSIT, ACCOUNT CLOSED MAY TEN , FIFTYEIGHT.

ALSO LOCATED WAS A SIGNATURE CARD FOR ACCOUNT IN NAME OF
COLUMBIA BASIN HOUSE CO., SHOWING ACCVUNT OPENED NOV. ~~NINE, FIFTYFIVE,~~ **399**
WITH ADDRESS OF FOURTEENTH AND LINDEKE, SPOKANE. THIS ACCOUNT
LISTED AS QUOTE TAX UNQUOTE ACCOUNT OF BILLIE SOL ESTES WITH

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE OF [REDACTED] ACCOUNT CLOSED JAN. TWENTY-

63 MAY 21 1962

b6
b7c

REC-108

b6
b7c

PAGE TWO

THREE, NINETEEN FIFTYSIX. INITIAL DEPOSIT FIFTYTWO DOLLARS AND EIGHTY CENTS.

A SIGNATURE CARD LOCATED FOR AN ACCOUNT IN NAME OF [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WASH. ACCOUNT OPENED
MARCH TWENTYONE, FIFTYSIX, WITH INITIAL DEPOSIT OF ONE THOUSAND
SEVEN HUNDRED AND THIRTY DOLLARS AND FORTYSIX CENTS AND CLOSED
APRIL FIFTEEN, FIFTYSEVEN. MANAGER WAS LISTED AS BILLIE SOL
ESTES.

b6
b7C

INVESTIGATION AT SEATTLE FIRST NATIONAL BANK, CHENEY, WASH.,
REVEALED [REDACTED] OPENED CHECKING ACCOUNT WITH A CHECK FOR
TWENTY-EIGHT HUNDRED DOLLARS ON SEPT. SEVENTEEN, FIFTYSEVEN.
OCCUPATION GIVEN AS [REDACTED] WITH RESIDENCE AS [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] WASH. ACCOUNT LISTED TWO OTHER DEPOSITS AS FOLLOWS,
TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS ON SEPT. TWENTYSEVEN, FIFTYSEVEN, THREE
HUNDRED DOLLARS ON SEPT. THIRTY, FIFTYSEVEN. ACCOUNT REFLECTED
SIX MONTHS ACTIVITY AND ACCOUNT CLOSED ON FEB. FOURTEEN, FIFTYEIGHT.
THIS BANK HAD NO RECORD OF ACCOUNTS IN THE NAMES OF COLUMBIA
BASIN HOUSE CO. [REDACTED] OR BILLIE SOL ESTES.

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] WASH. FREE PRESS, ADVISED

PAGE THREE

THAT COLUMBIA BASIN LAND CO. FORMERLY MANAGED BY A YOUNG MAN AND COMPANY CONSISTED OF GROUP OF WAR HOUSING BUILDINGS FOR SPOKANE WHICH WERE FORMERLY THE VICTORY HOUSING PROJECT. THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY EIGHTY TO ONE HUNDRED OF THE HOUSING UNITS WHICH HAD BEEN MOVED FROM SPOKANE TO VICINITY OF CHENEY. CITY OF CHENEY AND SPOKANE COUNTY PASSED ORDINANCES DENYING INDIVIDUALS RIGHT TO USE THESE UNITS AS DWELLINGS AND IT WAS [REDACTED] OPINION THAT COLUMBIA BASIN HOUSING COMPANY DISPOSED OF THESE UNITS TO ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL AND THAT LATER THEY WERE BURNED BY FIRE.

b6
b7c

[REDACTED] REMEMBERS THAT THE COLUMBIA BASIN HOUSING CO. RAN SOME ADS IN HIS PAPER AND THAT HE RECEIVED PAYMENT FOR THESE BY CHECK DRAWN ON A TEXAS BANK AND AS HE RECALLS SIGNED BILLIE SOL ESTES.

CREDIT BUREAU, SPOKANE, REFLECTS THAT BILLIE SOL ESTES AND WIFE PATSY WERE FIRST ON RECORD IN AUGUST, NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE WITH EMPLOYMENT LISTED AS SELF-EMPLOYED CONTRACTOR AND HIS LAST ADDRESS WAS BOX SIX ONE TWO SIX, SPOKANE, WITH A PREVIOUS ADDRESS OF TWENTY THREE ZERO ONE S. EDDY , BOX ONE ONE FOUR SIX, PECOS, TEX. RECORD LISTED NUMEROUS SUITS FOR BILLIE SOL ESTES WITH THE LASTEST AS OF APRIL FIFTYEIGHT LISTING A FIVE HUNDRED AND SIXTY DOLLAR JUDGMENT TAKEN BY THE STATE OF WASHINGTON AGAINST HIM.

BILLIE SOL ESTES WAS LISTED AS DOING BUSINESS AS COLUMBIA BASIN HOUSE CO., CHENEY, WASH.

CREDIT RECORDS REVEAL THAT [REDACTED] WERE FIRST KNOWN IN NOV. NINETEEN FIFTYFIVE AND LAST CHECKED MARCH FIFTYEIGHT. HIS OCCUPATION WAS [REDACTED] COLUMBIA BASIN HOUSE CO. FOR FIVE MONTHS IN NOV. FIFTYFIVE AND LUBBOCK, TEXAS, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE IN MARCH FIFTYEIGHT. THEIR ADDRESSES WERE [REDACTED] AS OF NOV. FIFTYFIVE, [REDACTED] OCT. FIFTYSIX AND [REDACTED] MARCH FIFTYEIGHT.

b6
b7c

NO CREDIT RECORD LISTED IN NAMES OF [REDACTED] COLUMBIA BASIN HOUSE CO. OR VICTORY HEIGHTS PROJECT.

RECORDS OF SECRETARY OF STATE, OLYMPIA, WASHINGTON, CHECKED WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS CONCERNING COLUMBIA BASIN HOUSING PROJECT, OR VICTORY HOUSING PROJECT.

RECORDS OF ABOVE BANKS ARE ON MICROFILM AND WILL BE REVIEWED FOR ANY CHECKS PERTINENT TO INSTANT INVESTIGATION.

END AND ACK PLS

2- WA 12-45 AM OK FBI WA HFL

DL OK FBI DL FLL

EP OK FBI EP RAR

TU DISC

OT

GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

Date 5/17/62

We have completed our review of Estes' telephone calls from January 1, 1961, to April 30, 1962, both for his home and residence telephones. Instant request extends the period back to 1958 and up to the present. *Being done.*

JA

A

Memorandum

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE:

May 1962

FROM : Herbert J. Miller, Assistant Attorney
General, Criminal DivisionSUBJECT: Billie Sol Estes

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Belmont	✓
Mr. Mohr	✓
Mr. Callahan	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Evans	✓
Mr. Malone	✓
Mr. Rosen	✓
Mr. Sullivan	✓
Mr. Tavel	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Miss Holmes	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

HJM:JB:K
29-76-334

In line with your continuing investigation into this matter, it is requested that your office please conduct a full investigation of all long distance telephone calls charged to Estes' telephone credit card during the period 1958 to the present.

NR 50A

5-21

10-1-62

10-1-62

10-1-62

ordered by
Telephone 5/17/62EXP. PROC.
MAY 17 1962

460

REC-108

5 MAY 21 1962

MAY 21 1962

Jub

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

URGENT 5-17-62 6-03 PM CST KH

TO DIRECTOR, FBI ATTENTION - WILLIAM WELTE, GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE

DIVISION

SACS, BALTIMORE, EL PASO, AND DALLAS

FROM SAC, HOUSTON 58-111 3 P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, AKA, ETAL, ITSP, BRIBERY, FAG, CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

RE TELEPHONE CALL FROM SA EDWARD MURPHY, EL PASO, TO ASAC, HOUSTON, MAY SEVENTEEN INSTANT.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AVAILABLE CONCERNING THIS TRANSACTION. 25 MAY 21 1962

CORRECTION LINE

OVE FIRST WD ONEWI

MAY 21 1962
END OF PAGE ONE

cc: Curran

b6
b7C
b7D

PAGE TWO

b6
b7C
b7D

END OF PAGE TWO

PAGE THREE

ESTES MAY HAVE SUICIDIAL TENDENCIES.

END AND ACK

~~S RPT CORR FOR PG 1 PLS~~

~~CORR LINE TWELVE FIRST WORDSXX WORD SHD BE ONE~~

TU 8:14 PM OK FBI WA WS

BA OK FBI BA JSL

TU DSCH

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont *also*

FROM : A. Rosen *Rosen*

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

DATE: May 17, 1962

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

Today's issue of "The Washington Daily News" indicates that John C. White, State Commissioner of Agriculture, Austin, Texas, stated that Walter C. Berger, an Eisenhower appointee, first arranged for Billie Sol Estes to store Government-owned grain.

Berger ~~is~~ *now* is affiliated with the Commercial Solvents Corporation. Preliminary background so far developed indicates that Berger was employed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture from 1943 to 1946 and March 15, 1954, until he resigned on January 20, 1961. He was the administrator of the Commodity Stabilization Service, which is now the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service.

We are instructing the field to interview White to determine what specific information he has concerning Berger and will thereafter interview Berger and such investigation as is warranted will be conducted.

1 - Mr. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Evans
WBW:mal *mal*
(9)

REC-108

29-28704-402
25 MAY 21 1962286
MAY 21 1962
50 MAY 22 1962

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont *ABW*

DATE: May 17, 1962

FROM : A. Rosen *HR*SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Malone _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
 Tavel _____
 Trotter _____
 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

This is to advise of Estes' attitude in declining to be interviewed.

We have attempted on three separate occasions to interview Estes and on each occasion he has declined to be interviewed.

The first interview was attempted on March 29, 1962, when he was arrested in connection with his having violated the Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property Statute and he refused to be interviewed.

On April 17, 1962, after we had established through Bureau investigation that there was a factual basis for items in the press stating that Estes had given gifts to officials, we again tried to interview Estes. He refused to be interviewed. On May 15, 1962, as a result of information developed and information obtained from certain records, we again attempted to interview Estes. Estes, through his attorney, declined to be interviewed. The Department has been fully advised of our attempts to interview Estes and is aware of his attitude and declinations to be interviewed.

1 - Mr. Evans *R*
 1 - Mr. DeLoach *JS*

JRM:pab:mpd
 (8)

29-22704-403
 25 MAY 21 1962

REC-108

246
 50 MAY 22 1962

May 17, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES

J. Taylor Allen, Farmer, Provo, Utah, former Southwest Area Director, United States Department of Agriculture, advised in a sworn statement that he attended as an observer a meeting at College Station, Texas, about January 17, 1961, with Henry Marshall, a [redacted] Pecos Valley Cotton Growers and a [redacted] Reeves County Agriculture Stabilization Committeeman. There were no others present.

b6
b7C

[redacted] presented a plan to have cotton acreage allotments transferred from Eastern Texas to Pecos Valley in Western Texas. Marshall told [redacted] such a transfer could not be allowed under United States Department of Agriculture regulations. Allen expressed the same opinion as Marshall at this meeting. Allen does not recall whether [redacted] expressed any opinion. [redacted] while with Allen on the first part of Allen's plane flight from College Station to Dallas, Texas, on the same date, reiterated the opinion that the transfer should be allowed. Allen, to his own knowledge, has never met nor corresponded with Estes and does not recall Estes' name being mentioned at the meeting.

b6
b7C

Marshall is the Department of Agriculture employee who was shot five times in the abdomen by a bolt action rifle on June 3, 1961. Local officials ruled this as a suicide but we are investigating the matter.

[redacted] are being contacted for interview.

b6
b7C

1 - Mr. Thompson

TWC:lmc
(8)

MAY 21 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

REC-108

6-76
29-20704-404

F B I

Date: 5/17/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

BILLIE SOL ESTES
BRIBERY - CONFLICT OF INTEREST
(OO:DL)

ReBuairtel dated 5/10/62.

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are four copies of a letterhead memo reflecting information obtained from a review of the personnel file of WALTER C. BERGER, former official of the U. S. Department of Agriculture. This information was obtained by SAs [redacted] and EUGENE W. WHITWAM on 5/15/62. One copy of the letterhead memo is also enclosed for the DL Division for information inasmuch as that office is the office of origin. One copy is enclosed for the NY Division inasmuch as WALTER C. BERGER reportedly is residing and is employed in the New York Division area.

b6
b7c

ENCLOSURE ESTES REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

- 3-Bureau (Encs-4)
1-Dallas (58-188) (Enc-1) (Info)
1-New York (Enc-1) (Info)
2-WFO

EWW:ljd
(7)

AIRTEL

2cc Dept. (Criminal Div.)
5-18-62
TWC: me

29-28704-405

25 MAY 21 1962

REC-108

C. G. Wick

6 MAY 21 1962

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
May 17, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL
BRIBERY - CONFLICT OF INTEREST

On May 15, 1962, Edward M. Loweree, Chief, Division of Investigations, Office of Personnel, Office of the Secretary, United States Department of Agriculture, (USDA), furnished the official personnel record folder of Walter C. Berger, former official in USDA, to Special Agents (SAs) of the FBI.

A review of the personnel folder revealed the following information:

Berger was born on July 28, 1900, in Wyoming, Iowa. His wife was listed as Margaret Brookhart Berger.

The former places of employment set forth by Berger on a form containing the caption "Security Investigation Data for Sensitive Position", dated March 23, 1954, are as follows:

1929 to 1930:	Half owner of a Hatchery business Auburn, Nebraska
1930 to 1932:	Manager, Omaha Flour Mills, Omaha, Nebraska
1932 to 1935:	Salesman, National Oil Products, Harrison, New Jersey.
1935 to 1943:	Owner and President, Des Moines Oat Products Company, Des Moines, Iowa
December 1, 1943, to May 30, 1946:	Department of Agriculture, Food Production Administration, Washington, D. C.

29-28704-415
ENCLOSURE

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL

June 1, 1946, to Executive President, American
June 1, 1952: Feed Manufacturing Association,
Chicago, Illinois

June 1, 1952, to Executive Vice President, Shea
March 15, 1954: Chemical Corporation, Baltimore,
Maryland

March 15, 1954, (to January 20, 1961): Department of Agriculture,
Washington, D. C.

It was also noted that Berger indicated that from July 26, 1948, until January 1, 1951, he also owned and operated the Berger Processing Company in Des Moines, Iowa.

The personnel folder revealed that on December 1, 1943, Berger was appointed to a position as Chief of the Feed and Livestock Branch, Food Production Administration, USDA, in Washington, D. C., and that he remained in this position until January 1, 1945, when he was transferred from the Control of the Feed and Livestock Branch, Office of Production, to the Agricultural Adjustment Agency, Office of the Chief, Food and Livestock Branch. Berger tendered his resignation as Chief, Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, on May 29, 1946, to accept a position outside the Government.

The folder also revealed that Berger was appointed on March 15, 1954, as Administrative Officer, GS-18, (Deputy Administrator) in the Office of the Administrator Commodity Stabilization Service, USDA, Washington, D. C. Berger resigned as Administrator of the Commodity Stabilization Service and as Executive Vice President of Commodity Credit Corporation on January 20, 1961.

It was noted that an undated Application for Federal Employment (apparently submitted prior to the appointment on March 15, 1954) and the "Security Investigation Data for Sensitive Position" dated March 23, 1954, both reflected that Berger had received a Master's Degree in 1925 from the Iowa

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL

State College, Ames Iowa. Both of these forms had a type-written attachment stapled to it signed by John P. Haughey, Director, Personnel Management Division, which states that the Degree of Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business (agricultural economics option) was conferred on February 27, 1960.

The folder also contained a copy of a degree from Iowa State University reflecting that Berger had received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Business on February 27, 1960.

Also contained in the personnel folder was a memorandum prepared by Berger dated March 14, 1956, which reflected that Berger had definitely resigned his position with the Shea Chemical Corporation; that Shea Chemical Corporation did sell some agricultural limestone for a good many years to the Agricultural Conservation Program Organization which worked very closely with the committees which came under his supervision. Berger pointed out in the memorandum that as far as he knows the Shea Chemical Corporation did not do any business with the Department during the time he was an official of the Department.

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 1 6 1962

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson_____
Mr. Belmont_____
Mr. Mohr_____
Mr. Callahan_____
Mr. Conrad_____
Mr. DeLoach_____
Mr. Evans_____
Mr. Malone_____
Mr. Rosen_____
Mr. Sullivan_____
Mr. Tavel_____
Mr. Trotter_____
Tele. Room_____
Miss Holmes_____
Miss Gandy_____

URGENT 5-15-62 7-35 PM NRB

TO DIRECTOR 29-28704 SACS DALLAS 58-188

RICHMOND 58-185 AND WFO 87-8242

FROM SAC LOS ANGELES 58-497

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL, BRIBERY, COI. OO DALLAS. RE
RICHMOND TEL MAY SIXTEEN, INSTANT.

RECORDS, PACIFIC TELEPHONE COMPANY, LOS ANGELES,
REFLECT FOLLOWING INFORMATION AS TO SUBSCRIBERS AND
CODE NUMBERS AS SET FORTH IN REFERENCED TEL.

CALIFORNIA CODE TWO ZERO NINE IS ASSIGNED FRESNO CALIFORNIA,
AND PHONE NUMBER TWO SIX SIX DASH FIVE SEVEN
NINE FIVE, IS LISTED TO BALFOUR GUTHRIE AND COMPANY, LTD.,
THREE ONE FIVE NORTH H STREET, FRESNO. PREFIX FOR THIS
PHONE NUMBER IS AMHERST. CALIFORNIA CODE NUMBER EIGHT
ZERO FIVE IS ASSIGNED TO BAKERSFIELD, CALIFORNIA. PHONE
NUMBER [REDACTED] IS LISTED TO

b6
b7c

[REDACTED]
PREFIX FOR THIS PHONE NUMBER IS [REDACTED] PHONE NUMBER
FIVE EIGHT THREE DASH THREE EIGHT FIVE SIX IS LISTED TO
END PAGE ONE

REC-108

25 MAY 21 1962

MAY 21 1962

TWO COPIES WFO

cc: Curran

PAGE TWO

DAIRY FRESH PRODUCTS COMPANY, FOUR SEVEN SEVEN ZERO
EAST FIFTY STREET, LOS ANGELES. PREFIX IS LUDLOW.
PHONE NUMBER SIX TWO FOUR DASH ONE ZERO ONE ONE IS LISTED
TO BILTMORE HOTEL, FIVE ONE FIVE SOUTH OLIVE STREET, LOS
ANGELES. PREFIX FOR THIS NUMBER IS MADISON. PHONE NUMBER
SIX THREE FOUR DASH TWO ONE TWO THREE IS LISTED TO CITY OF
PARAMOUNT, ONE SIX TWO ONE NINE SOUTH PARAMOUNT BOULEVARD,
PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA. PREFIX FOR THIS PHONE IS METCALF.
PHONE NUMBER THREE TWO ONE DASH ZERO NINE FIVE SEVEN IS
LISTED TO AVALON FARMS, ONE FOUR ZERO ZERO ZERO SOUTH AVALON
LOS ANGELES. PREFIX FOR THIS PHONE NUMBER IS FACULTY
PHONE NUMBER NINE THREE ONE DASH ONE NINE ONE ONE IS LISTED
TO CARNATION COMPANY, FIVE ZERO FOUR FIVE WILSHIRE
BOULEVARD, LOS ANGELES. PREFIX FOR THIS NUMBER IS WEBSTER.

THIS TEL CONTAINS RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED
BY LOS ANGELES OFFICE THIS DATE.

RUC REPORT TO FOLLOW.

ESTES REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

HOLD PLS

ACK PLS

10-41 PM OK FBI WA WS GA

12 5/17
ann

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 1 6 1962

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. DeLoach	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Bishop	
Mr. Casper	
Mr. Callahan	
Mr. Conrad	
Mr. Felt	
Mr. Gale	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Sullivan	
Mr. Tavel	
Mr. Trotter	
Tele. Room	
Miss Holmes	
Miss Gandy	

O'Keefe
Wester

URGENT 5/16/62 8-31PM EST LG

TO DIRECTOR, FBI /29-28704/ AND SAC, DALLAS /58-188/

FROM SAC, ATLANTA /87-8671/ /RUC/ 3P

BILLIE SOL ESTES. ET AL. BRIBERY. COI. OO DALLAS.

RE RICHMOND TEL THIS DATE.

PHONE NO. [REDACTED]

b6
b7C

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] GA. OFFICES AT THREE THREE FOUR
EIGHT PEACHTREE RD., N.E., ATLANTA, GA., PHONE NO. FOUR ZERO FOUR -
TWO THREE SEVEN - TWO TWO FIVE.

SIXTYONE ATLANTA CITY DIRECTORY LISTS [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] PAREN [REDACTED]

COTTON PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION, RESIDENCE AT
[REDACTED] GA.

b6
b7C

[REDACTED] CREDIT BUREAU OF GREATER ATLANTA,
INC., ADVISED THIS DATE FILE FOR [REDACTED] ESTABLISHED

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] SINCE SIXTY. LAST ACCOUNT ACTIVITY IN MARCH,
SIXTYONE. [REDACTED] COTTON
PRODUCERS, SINCE THIRTYTHREE. ESTIMATED INCOME TWENTY TO TWENTY-
FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS PER YR. FORMER RESIDENCE [REDACTED]

ONE PAGE ONE
83 MAY 21 1962

cc: [REDACTED] 25 MAY 21 1962

PAGE TWO

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] MORTGAGED THROUGH STANDARD FEDERAL SAVINGS AND LOAN AT
ATLANTA, GA. [REDACTED] FIRESTONE CORP. AND AT SHARP-
ZACHARY-HORSEY CO., NOW SHARP-HORSEY CO. [REDACTED]
SET OUT. ALL CREDIT GOOD.

[REDACTED] IDENT. BUREAU, ATLANTA PD, ADVISED
THIS DATE THEIR FILE NO. ONE FOUR SIX ZERO ONE EIGHT FOR [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] GA., REFLECTS

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] BY LEE COTTON PRODUCERS,
INC., SEVEN FOUR SIX GLENN ST., ATLANTA, [REDACTED]

END PAGE TWO

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b6
b7C

PAGE THREE

[REDACTED] GBI, IDENT. DIV., ATLANTA,

b6
b7C

ADVISED THIS DATE THEIR FILE REFLECTS [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ATLANTA, GA.,

[REDACTED] FULTON CO. BUREAU

[REDACTED] STATION CAPTAIN-S OFFICE, ATLANTA PD,

ADVISED THIS DATE HIS RECORDS CONTAIN NO RECORD FOR [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ATLANTA INDICES NEGATIVE RE [REDACTED]

AM COPY TO RICHMOND.

END ACK

WA 9-41 PM OK FBI WA MLL

DL OK FBI DL LJH

TU DISCV

NA 2/16
6/2/62
6/2/62

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 16 1962

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

W. J. [unclear]
[Signature]
Curran

URGENT 5-16-62 5-31 PM EDST ERA
TO DIRECTOR FBI /29-28704/ AND SAC DALLAS
FROM SAC PHILADELPHIA /29-1768/ 1P
BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL, BRIBERY.

RE RICHMOND TEL MAY SIXTEEN.

SPECIAL AGENTS-S OFFICE, BELL TELEPHONE CO., PHILA, ADVISED
SUBSCRIBERS TO FOLLOWING TELEPHONE NUMBERS AS FOLLOWS -

TWO THREE SIX - FOUR ZERO ZERO ZERO LISTED TO TEMPLE UNIVERSITY
SWITCHBOARD, PHILA, PA. FIVE SIX SEVEN - NINE SIX SEVEN ZERO LISTED
TO PAY PHONE CONCOURSE OF GREYHOUND BUS TERMINAL, PHILA. REPORT
FOLLOWS. ESTES REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.
END AND ACK IN ORDER PLS.

WA 5-34 PM OK FBI WA LVS

DL OK FBI DL NW

REG-108

25 MAY 21 1962

cc: Curran

63 MAY 21 1962

F B I

Date: 5/16/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

my g
 BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka; et al
 ITSP; BRIBERY; COI
 (OO:DL)

Enclosed herewith for the Bureau are four copies of a letterhead memo concerning the commitment of MARY K. JONES to D. C. General Hospital for mental observation on 4/25/62.

Two copies each of this memo are being furnished the Dallas and El Paso Divisions in view of investigation in those divisions.

g
 Also enclosed for the Bureau is a Photostat copy of the records obtained from the Mental Health Commission, District of Columbia, Mental Health Number 861-62 pertaining to MARY K. JONES. These documents include the statement of facts filed by Officer ROBERT L. SELBY; the record of admittance of MARY K. JONES to D. C. General Hospital; the affidavit executed by SELBY to the Chief of Police concerning SELBY's belief that MARY K. JONES is of unsound mind; the medical certificate signed by Dr. R. SCHOENGOLD (signature partially illegible) and Dr. R. H. PINE; the report and recommendations of the Commission of Mental Health; U. S. District Court order dated May, 1962, dismissing the petition for mental observation.

REC-108 *29-28704-410*
ESTES IS REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

- 6*
 3 - Bureau (Enc. 4)
 2 - Dallas (Enc. 2) (58-188)
 2 - El Paso (Enc. 2) (29-351)
 2 - WFO

2-cc 2
See Dept
mem 2/15
4B
5/17/62
1 cc Trans 5/17/62
 AIRTEL

25 MAY 21 1962

JGH:pjh
 (9)

63 MAY 21 1962
 Approved: _____
 Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
May 16, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN PROPERTY
BRIBERY; CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Central Criminal Records (CCR), Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), Washington, D. C., as reviewed on May 16, 1962, reflect that on April 25, 1962, a Mary K. Jones, 1201 South Courthouse Road, Arlington, Virginia, who is described as a white female, date of birth January 4, 1911, was arrested by [redacted] Case Number 997. The offense was indicated as Mental Observation CCR Number 215588. 30

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On May 16, 1962, Corporal [redacted] Statistical Unit, MPD, made available MPD complaint report bearing CCR Number 215588, Precinct Number 4-62-737. The report is dated April 25, 1962. The place of the report is indicated as Room 1039, South Building, Department of Agriculture, and the nature of the report is indicated as mental observation. The complainant's name was reflected as Mary K. Jones, white female, age 51, 1201 South Courthouse Road, Arlington, Virginia. The report reflects "About 12:20 p. m., April 25, 1962, in response to a radio run to Room 1039, South Building of Agriculture, Mary K. Jones, white female, 51, of Department of Agriculture, observed in office of [redacted] Department of Agriculture, Chief, Health, Education, Safety and Welfare Division, screaming and acting in a confused state of mind. [redacted] stated Mary Jones' personal physician, [redacted] was contacted and advised. Mary Jones charged with mental observation and conveyed to D. C. General Hospital where admitted by Staff [redacted] for mental observation, condition not serious. [redacted] Womens Bureau notified. Unable to contact [redacted]

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[redacted] notified by [redacted]

39-28704-410
ENCLOSURE

RE BILLIE SOL ESTES

[redacted] Agriculture Department, April 25, 1962." Private [redacted] was reflected as [redacted] the reporting officer and the report is signed by [redacted] of the unit reporting.

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On May 16, 1962, [redacted]

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[redacted] D. C. General Hospital, referred the Agents to Dr. John D. Schultz, Medical Director, D. C. General Hospital, for any information concerning the matter of Mary K. Jones.

On May 16, 1962, Dr. Schultz advised that Mary K. Jones was admitted to D. C. General Hospital on the basis of a MPD mental observation order (MPD Form Number PD 162) which was signed by Private [redacted] Dr. Schultz advised that under Title 21, District of Columbia Code, Section 326, a police officer is authorized to arrest an insane person found in a public place and the action is based on his best judgment. The mental observation order executed by [redacted] reflects "incoherent and erratic speech and behavior - assaulted the resident doctor at the Department of Agriculture where she is an employee, time 10:45 a. m., place, Department of Agriculture, South Building." Dr. Schultz advised that in addition to the mental observation order executed by [redacted] also executed an affidavit to the Chief of Police of the MPD stating under oath that he apprehended and detained an individual and from what he had seen he believes her to be of unsound mind, incapable of taking care of herself or her property and if permitted to go unrestrained persons or property will be jeopardized. In addition to the affidavit signed by [redacted] a petition was filed with the District Court requesting a mental observation. Based on this petition, an order was issued by the court. Dr. Schultz advised that his records contain the petition of Private [redacted] Mental Health Number 861-62, and also the order issued by Judge Edward M. Curran on April 26, 1962, to hold Mary K. Jones for mental observation.

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Dr. Schultz advised that when an individual is brought to the emergency section at D. C. General Hospital on the basis of an MPD mental observation order

RE BILLY SOD ESTES

she is afforded a medical examination by two physicians to determine if she has any physical ailment. In the event no physical ailment is discovered, she is automatically committed to the psychiatric section for mental observation pursuant to mental observation order of the MPD. If at any time she is adjudged to be of sound mind, D. C. General Hospital is required as a matter of law to immediately release the individual.

Dr. Schultz advised that his records reflect that Mary K. Jones arrived at D. C. General Hospital at 1:10 p.m., April 25, 1962, at which time she was examined by [REDACTED]

The examination failed to reflect a physical ailment and she was automatically admitted to the psychiatric section. Dr. Schultz advised his records further reflect that Mary K. Jones was discharged to her family by the Mental Health Commission on May 7, 1962. Dr. Schultz explained that in the normal course of events, if individuals are found to be of sound mind they will be discharged and the fact that a person was discharged to their family would indicate that there is reason for feeling they needed psychiatric attention.

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RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL

On May 16, 1962, [redacted] Metropolitan Police Department (MPD), advised his office had been conducting inquiry into the commitment of Mary K. Jones for mental observation based on an inquiry from Congressman Robert Dole of Kansas and Senator Williams of Delaware and an inference that there was collusion by the MPD in this commitment. [redacted] advised that the original complaint in this matter was received by telephone from a [redacted] (phonetic), who is apparently an employee of the Department of Agriculture, in which she stated they had a woman in Room 1039 who was mentally unset and disturbed. [redacted] indicated that a [redacted] was in attendance. [redacted] advised that when an individual makes a complaint to the MPD and the radio dispatcher dispatches a cruiser to the scene there is no way for the individual making the complaint to be aware of the identity of the cruiser which responds to this call.

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[redacted]
[redacted] MPD, was interviewed under oath and advised that at 11:32 a.m. on April 25, 1962, he had just returned from court and was in a scout car with Privates [redacted] when that unit received a call from the Central Radio Dispatcher, MPD, to see the complainant, Room 1039, South Building, Department of Agriculture. [redacted] dropped Officers [redacted] Station House and proceeded to Room 1039 of the Department of Agriculture accompanied by Private [redacted] When he arrived at Room 1039 he opened the door and observed an individual later identified as [redacted] whom he asked if he had called for a police officer. [redacted] replied in the affirmative. At this time [redacted] observed two white females, one dressed in a nurse's uniform and the second later identified as Mary K. Jones. [redacted] what was the nature of the call and [redacted] stated he did not know what to do with Miss Jones. [redacted] observed during this time that

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RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL

Miss Jones was facing the nurse and continually talking, rambling on, more or less incoherently. [redacted] advised she was not violent at this time. [redacted] that if he had arrived five minutes earlier she (Miss Jones) had been beating him over the head with a shoe. [redacted] mentioned that he had called Miss Jones' personal physician. [redacted] then asked Miss Jones what was wrong and she looked at him and then kept rambling to the nurse. [redacted] again asked [redacted] about Miss Jones' personal doctor and [redacted] a slip of paper reflecting Miss Jones' name, the fact that she was a Department of Agriculture employee and the name of her personal physician. [redacted] asked [redacted] for permission to make a call to [redacted] dialed 9 for an outside line, then dialed the number furnished by [redacted] and a woman answered "Medical Building" or something similar after which [redacted] A male came to the phone who identified himself as [redacted] stated that Mary T. Jones was in an office in the Department of Agriculture and [redacted] stated he knew it. [redacted] advised [redacted] that Jones was walking around and talking and she was acting in a confused state. He further stated that she needs medical attention immediately. [redacted] stated he knew it and was aware of the case and asked [redacted] if [redacted] could assist him in any way. [redacted] stated he would have to charge her with mental observation and take her to the hospital. [redacted] stated that he would go to the hospital and be there when she arrived. [redacted] asked [redacted] if he was leaving his office then and [redacted] said he was. [redacted] if he would sign an affidavit, referring to an affidavit to her mental condition and [redacted] said he would. After termination of the above call, [redacted] contacted the sergeant in the Communications and Records Section and asked for a patrol wagon. After the above call, he asked [redacted] if he was willing to sign an affidavit and [redacted] replied in the affirmative. All during the above Miss Jones was continually walking around the office, rambling and voicing her suspicions of everyone.

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RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL

After the arrival of the patrol wagon, [redacted] accompanied Miss Jones to the patrol wagon and rode with her to D. C. General Hospital. Private [redacted] advised that he had no further contact with Miss Jones subsequent to her departing in the patrol wagon with police officers and [redacted] until the hearing before Mental Health Commission on May 7, 1962.

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Private [redacted] advised that he is not personally acquainted with anyone in the Department of Agriculture, had no previous contact with anyone concerning the commitment of Mary K. Jones prior to his arrival at the Department of Agriculture and had no knowledge as to the identity of the individuals to be contacted at the Department of Agriculture. He further advised that the action taken by him was based on his personal observations and was not influenced by anyone.

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Private [redacted] MPD [redacted] of the MPD, who is detailed to [redacted] from the MPD Training School, was interviewed under oath and furnished substantially the same information as furnished by [redacted]. He further advised that he did not participate in most of the conversation engaged in by [redacted] but stood in the vicinity of the entrance to the office, during which time he observed Miss Mary K. Jones walking around and rambling. He further recalled that on one occasion Mary K. Jones asked for a drink of water and when a cup of water was brought and offered to her she declined it. [redacted] shortly thereafter stated "If you are not going to drink the water, I will" after which he drank the water that was obtained for Miss Mary K. Jones. Within minutes thereafter Miss Jones made a statement to the effect "Where is the water I asked for, I told you I was thirsty." [redacted] advised that he had no information concerning the nature of the complaint to which they were responding prior to his arrival at the Department of Agriculture and further that he was not personally acquainted with anyone in the Department of Agriculture.

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RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL

On May 16, 1962, the Mental Health Commission file, number 861-62, was made available through [redacted] United States District Court, Washington, D.C. [redacted] advised that the official court record is on file in the clerk's office and would be available on the morning of May 17, 1962, however, her file contains copies of most pertinent documents. It was noted the Commission of Mental Health file failed to contain the order signed by Judge Edward M. Curran on April 26, 1962, ordering Mary K. Jones held for mental observation.

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This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

58
lea

Washington 25, D. C.

May 16, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES

Texas Attorney General Will Wilson and Dick Wells, Texas Assistant Attorney General, Austin, Texas, advised that three items check number 8380 in the amount of \$40,000.00, check number 8369 in the amount of \$64,139, and check 8368 in the amount of \$40,376.14, dated January 16, 1962, drawn on First National Bank of Pecos, Texas, and payable to the bank were not charged to "Washington Project" but went into the cashiers checks. Stated Estes receiver would not permit State Attorney General's office to trace these cashiers checks. Will Wilson and Dick Wells advised do not know what account "Washington Project" is and have not been able to determine why account set up.

According to Wells, [redacted] General Accounting Office, Dallas, Texas, assigned to work with McClellan Committee, believed to have a list of transactions under "Washington Project." [redacted] believed to be in Pecos.

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Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TWC:imc
(6)

2 cc Dept. Criminal Div
5-16-62
TWC:imc

63 MAY 21 1962

REC-108

29-28704-411

5 MAY 18 1962

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 15 1962
TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Callahan _____
Mr. Conrad _____
Mr. DeLoach _____
Mr. Evans _____
Mr. Malone _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Sullivan _____
Mr. Tavel _____
Mr. Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

URGENT 5-15-62 4-49 PM CST MRH

TO DIRECTOR FBI 29-28704

FROM SAC KANSAS CITY 58-194 1P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ETAL, BRIBERY COI, DALLAS OO.

REBURAD MAY FOURTEEN SIXTYTWO. NO PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS WITHIN
THIS DIVISION THIS DATE. AM COPY TO DALLAS. ESTES MAY HAVE SUICIDAL
TENDENCIES.

END ACK PLS

6-52 PM OK FBI WA RAM

DISC

REC-108

29-28704-412
23 MAY 21 1962

63 MAY 21 1962

cc: Curran

Mr. Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General

May 15, 1962

Director, FBI

BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF STOLEN
PROPERTY - BRIBERY

This is to confirm the telephonic request of Mr. William B. Welte of this Bureau by [redacted] of the Criminal Division on May 15, 1962. The request was to determine the nature of the bankruptcy proceedings involving Estes' enterprises and to determine how the proceedings were instituted.

An immediate check was made by our El Paso Office and the Special Agent in Charge has furnished the following information relative to the Estes enterprises:

The receivership proceedings under which Estes' enterprises are now operating are proceedings under Chapter 11 of the Bankruptcy Act. It is an arrangement of unsecured debts or unsecured creditors, the purpose of which is to rehabilitate a debtor, who, if his business is able to proceed, will be able to pay off the creditors.

Proceedings in instant receivership were initiated by Estes himself who filed a petition on April 9, 1962, for an arrangement in the United States District Court, Pecos Division, Western District of Texas, Judge Thomason presiding.

The judge after receiving Estes' petition reviewed the matter and thereafter set up the receivership and appointed [redacted]

[redacted] is presently operating Estes' enterprises and while Estes has ownership of the property he nevertheless has no actual voice in the management.

1 - Mr. [redacted] MAY 21 1962
WBW:mal
(9) ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

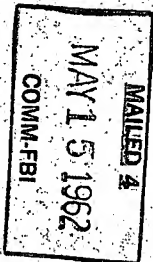
19 MAY 17 1962

REC'D-READING ROOM
FBI

MAY 15 4 41 PM '62
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b7C

RECEIVED-EVANS

MAY 15 10 05 AM '62



Tolson
Belmont
Mohr
Callahan
Conrad
DeLoach
Evans
Malone
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

RECEIVED-DIRECTOR

REC-108

b6
b7C

Mr. Herbert J. Miller, Jr.

The receivership is docketed as
cause 290 in the Bankruptcy Docket of the
Pecos Division of the Western District of
Texas.

The above information was telephonically furnished
to today.

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b7C

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

*Memorandum*TO : A. Rosen *Rosen*

DATE: May 15, 1962

FROM : W. B. Welte *W B*SUBJECT: *Billie Sol Estes*
BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	_____
Evans	_____
Malone	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Holmes	_____
Gandy	_____

Time of Call 12:45

This is with reference to a check of Estes' bank records of which the field was previously advised but which was delayed while the Department considered obtaining access to the Estes records. ASAC Clark of the Dallas Office and SAC Crosby of the El Paso Office were telephonically instructed to institute immediately investigation directed towards obtaining from the banks involved Estes' records. *W*

ACTION:This is for file. *6-220*29-28704-414

25 MAY 21 1962

6-108

TWC:lmc

(5) *lmc*

63 MAY 21 1962

F B I

Date: 5/15/62

Transmit the following in _____

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka; et al
 ITSP; BRIBERY; COI
 (OO: DL)

SUMMARY AIRTEL

U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) personnel file of HENRY HARVEY MARSHALL, deceased, former USDA official, reviewed at Justice Department but file contains no info as to cause of his death or any information as to activities of subject ESTES.

MARSHALL was born 12/18/09, Franklin, Texas, and employed by USDA from August, 1934 until his death 6/3/61. He was Program Specialist, Texas Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service (ASCS) in state office at time of death.

Review of WDC newspaper "morning" disclose only an article in May, 1962, that [redacted] is reported as the [redacted] in death of GEORGE A. KRUTILEK. No other pertinent info located in any news articles.

TAYLOR ALLEN, former Southwest Area Director, Commodity Stabilization Service, USDA, located at Provo, Utah according to article in "Washington Daily News" 5/15/62, which article quotes him as saying MARSHALL informed that [redacted] for ESTES and WILLIAM P. MATTOX, Vice Chairman, Reeves County Stabilization Committee, that ESTES' plan to transfer cotton allotments to West Texas was illegal.

3-Bureau
 1-Dallas (58-188) (Info)
 2-WFO

FWA:MJB
 (6)

AIRTEL

C. C. Wick

REC-103

29-28704-415
 25 MAY 21 1962

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____

M

Per _____

b6
b7Cb6
b7C

WFO 87-8242

Salt Lake City, by teletype 5/15/62, has been requested to interview TAYLOR ALLEN and to submit teletype summary by 5/16/62.

Separate LHM submitted concerning location of checking account for WILLIAM E. MORRIS at National Capital Bank, WDC.

Efforts being made to interview MARY K. JONES, former secretary to N. BATTLE HALES. On 5/15/62, she was contacted at her apartment just as she was about to leave for a visit to her physician. It was obvious to agents that she was under sedation and therefore interview not conducted. Agents are attempting to contact her doctor prior to any interview of JONES.

Inquiry at D.C. General Hospital has disclosed records of mental hearings are confidential and results cannot be made available. This contact made to determine results of hearing afforded MARY K. JONES just prior to her release from hospital.

Further efforts being made to determine details of mental hearing.

WILSON C. TUCKER, Deputy Director, Cotton Division, ASCS, interviewed 5/15/62, and he supported previous allegations that ESTES made threats in October, 1961, in effort to halt USDA investigations.

JOSEPH A. MOSS, Director, Cotton Division, ASCS, will be interviewed when available. 5/16/62.

ESTES REPORTEDLY HAS SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

NA
5/15
5/14
P

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 14 1962

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Malone	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

URGENT 5--14--62 5--46PM CST JC
TO DIRECTOR, FBI, ATTENTION GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION 29-28704
FROM SAC, NEW ORLEANS 58-169 1P
BILLIE SOL ESTES, AKA, ETAL, BRIBERY, COI. OO DALLAS.

RE DALLAS TELETYPE TO BUREAU, MAY TEN LAST, MAIL COPY
RECEIVED NEW ORLEANS MAY TWELVE. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ASCS, NEW ORLEANS, REQUESTED TODAY TO FURNISH RECORDS
RE ANY ASSIGNMENTS BY ESTES OF COTTON STORAGE PAYMENTS TO
COMMERCIAL SOLVENTS CORP. REVIEW WILL BE MADE WHEN RECORDS
PRODUCED. DALLAS AND EL PASO ADVISED AM.

END

WA 7-49 PM OK FBI WA RAC
TU DIS
T

REC-108

29-28704-416
25 MAY 21 1962

68 MAY 21 1962

cc: Carson

b6
b7c

F B I

Date: 5/14/62

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)
ATTENTION: GENERAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

FROM: SAC, DALLAS (58-188) (P)

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka.,
ET AL
BRIBERY, CONFLICT OF INTEREST

OO: DALLAS

It has been observed that ESTES has shown on certain hotel registers that he holds American Express Agency credit card #018 060-7384. The concern's Dallas office has advised that record of charges to this card account can be obtained by contact with [redacted] Credit Card Department, American Express Agency, 30 Church Street, New York, N. Y. (Dallas Office has previously obtained copies of microfilm photographs of charges to ESTES' Carte Blanche credit card through the Los Angeles Office).

b6
b7cLEADSNEW YORKAt New York, New York

Obtain from American Express Agency photos of charges of BILLIE SOL ESTES, Credit Card #018 060-7384, to his account since account was opened; examine application for credit card, if available, to determine whether he has shown he is the holder of other credit cards; if so, and they are identified by number, set out leads promptly for appropriate offices to obtain copies of charges of ESTES to such accounts.

ESTES MAY HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

- 3 - Bureau
2 - New York (87-26066)
1 - El Paso (29-351) (Info)
2 - Dallas

MCC/cjr
(8)

LYNUM

11 MAY 15 1962

Approved:

Sent _____ M _____

Special Agent in Charge

MAY 21 1962

028
F B I

Date: 5/12/62

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)
FROM: SAC, EL PASO (58-59) (P)
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES;
ET AL
BRIBERY; CONFLICT OF
INTEREST
OO: DALLAS

Reference check of telephone records, Pecos, Texas, concerning subject's office phones.

Previous check of phone records, Pecos, made and furnished Bureau and interested offices by airtel dated 5/10/62, concerning check of ESTES' resident phones, as well as private unlisted number at his office.

Enclosed to the Bureau and offices receiving, the indicated number of FD 302's concerning results of Telephone Company record check at Pecos, Texas.

Bureau disseminate to department, and offices receiving obtain listing on telephone numbers your division, UACB.

Dallas include in your next report.

- ENCLOSURE
C C - WICK
- 3 - Bureau (Encls. 5) (AMSD)
2 - Butte (Encls. 2)
2 - Chicago (Encls. 2)
2 - Dallas (58-188) (Encls. 25)
2 - Los Angeles (Encls. 2)
2 - Richmond (Encls. 2)
2 - Washington Field (Encls. 2)
2 - El Paso (1 - 58-59) (1 - 29-351)
JRM/bg (17)
- 2 cc Dept
5-18-62
2 POK: inc
REC-108
1 cc [unclear]
5732
17 MAY 15 1962
418

53 MAY 22 1962 Special Agent in Charge

Approved: 7. E. L. Sent _____ M Per _____

EP 58-59

the West Texas Communication Corporation, 312 South Cypress
Street, Pecos, Texas, made the records available to the
indicated Agents.

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b7C

ESTES MAY HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

CROSBY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date May 12, 1962

b7D

On 5/11/62 at Pecos, Texas File # EP 58-59by SA [redacted] andSA [redacted] bgDate dictated 5/12/62

b6

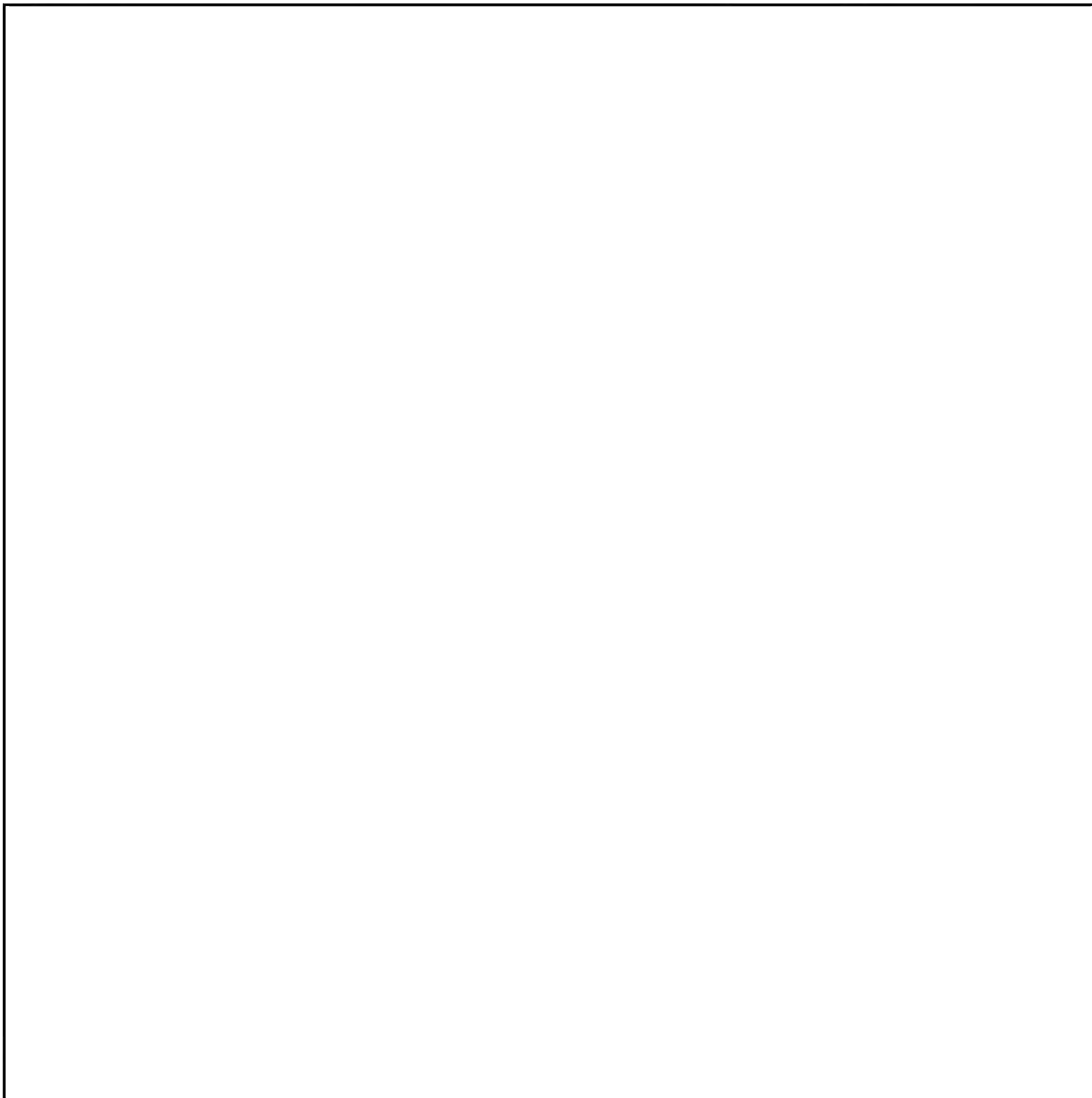
b7C

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

ENCLOSURE

2. EP 58-59

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3. EP 58-59

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b7C
b7D

4. EP 58-59



b6
b7C
b7D

5. EP 58-59



6. EP 58-59



b6
b7C
b7D

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Belmont _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Carson _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Hendon _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____
Tele. Room _____
Miss Horne _____
Miss Holmes _____
Miss Gandy _____

03 MAY 21 1962

F B I

Date: 5/11/62

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL REGULAR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, RICHMOND (58-158) - P -

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES, Et Al
BRIBERY; CONFLICT OF INTEREST

(OO: Dallas)

Re WFO airtel to Bureau, dated 5/7/62.

The records of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Co., Richmond, Va., reflected the following telephone calls charged to McLean, Va., telephone number ELgin 6-7221, from Law or Lawton, Oklahoma:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PLACE FROM WHICH CALL MADE AND TELEPHONE NO.</u>	<u>PERSON CALLING</u>	<u>PERSON CALLED</u>
3/4/62	Law, Oklahoma, EL 3-9986	Col. RALPH	
3/9/62	Lawton, Oklahoma, EL 3-9985	Col. RALPH	No Person Called
3/12/62	Law, Oklahoma, EL 3-9822	Dr. RALPH	

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b7c

3 - Bureau (Regular Mail)
1 - WFO (87-8242) (Regular Mail)
2 - Dallas (58-188) (Air Mail) (Enc. 2)
1 - Oklahoma City (87-7903) (Air Mail)
1 - El Paso (29-251) (Air Mail)
1 - Richmond
ULS/pgh

(9) MAY 21 1962

29-28704-420
11 MAY 14 1962

REC-108

A. E. Wick

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

RH 58-158

All of the above calls were made from pay stations.

The information set forth in the 302 was obtained
from [REDACTED] C and P Telephone
Co., Richmond, Va.

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b7c

ESTES IS REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

F B I

Date: 5/11/62

Transmit the following in PLAIN TEXT
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL AIR MAIL
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, DALLAS (58-188)

SUBJECT: BILLIE SOL ESTES, aka,
ET AL
BRIBERY, COI

OO - DALLAS

Re Dallas airtel 5/11/62.

All sales slips from Men's Furnishings Department, Neiman-Marcus, Dallas for September 1961, examined no record located of purchase of \$16.95 shirts, identifiable with person named "WILSON".

Hotel bills of RALPH, MORRIS, and ESTES, Sheraton in Dallas, September 1961 do not reflect charges for postage. Hotel does not maintain record of packages mailed as accommodations to guests.

USPO, Dallas, states PO does not make record of names of senders and addressees of insured packages. Delivery receipts are fowled by PO at points of receipt according to last two digits of insured numbers, delivery receipts which show place of mailing. State check at small PO such as Mc Lean, Virginia did not prove particularly burdensome. Neiman-Marcus Store, Dallas, has been given block of insured numbers, 552,001-553000, which number would identify any package mailed by N-M.

LEADSRICHMOND OFFICEAT MC LEAN, VIRGINIA

- C.C. Wick ③
- 1 - Bureau (29-28704)
 - 1 - WFO (87-8242)
 - 2 - Richmond
 - 1 - El Paso (29-351) (INFO)
 - 1 - Dallas

MCC/skw

③ MAY 21 1962

REC-108

18 MAY 14 1962

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

DL 58-183

Check delivery receipts for insured packages mailed at Dallas, Texas, which may be identified with alleged package of shirts addressed to

b6
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ESTES MAY HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.

LYNUM

F B I

Date: 5/10/62

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. DeLoach	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Gale	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Miss Holmes	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plain text or code)Via AIRTEL _____
(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (29-28704)

FROM: SAC, WFO (87-8242) (P)

BILLIE SOL ESTES; ET AL.
BRIBERY; CONFLICT OF INTEREST
(OO:DL)

ReWFOairtel and letterhead memorandum to the
Bureau dated 5/7/62.

Enclosed herewith are four copies to the Bureau and
one copy for information to Dallas of a letterhead memorandum
dated and captioned as above.

Referenced WFO airtel and letterhead memorandum
set out information concerning WFO answers to the newspaper
publicity contained in the Washington, D.C. newspapers
concerning statements attributed to [redacted]
[redacted] Secretary of Agriculture, and
N. BATTLE HALES, [redacted] State and
County Operations, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation
Service (ASCS), United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Referenced airtel also set forth information
concerning the matter relating to the review of the former
files of HALES at the USDA.

The enclosed letterhead memorandum relates to the
"Transcript of Press Conference, USDA, Friday, May 4, 1962,
12 P.M.," and answers of the WFO to false statements made
at the above-mentioned press conference on 5/4/62.

ENCLOSURE 4

- (3) Bureau (Enc.4)
1- Dallas (58-188) (Enc.1) (AM)
2- WFO

AJS:dab
(6)
AIRTEL

*2cc Dept.
5/15/62
S.D.T. inc.*

REC-108

29-28704-422
25 MAY 21 1962

C. C. Wick

MAY 21 1962

Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

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b7C

WFO 87-8242

SA ANDREW J. SHANNON contacted [REDACTED] on 4/19/62.

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SAs [REDACTED] interviewed
HORACE DAVID GODFREY and WILLIAM H. DUGGAN on 4/20/62.

ESTES REPORTED TO HAVE SUICIDAL TENDENCIES.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to
File No.

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.
May 10, 1962

BILLIE SOL ESTES
ET AL.
BRIBERY; CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Reference is made to the "Transcript of Press
Conference, USDA, Friday, May 4, 1962, 12 P. M."

On page six of the transcript, [redacted]
[redacted] Secretary of Agriculture,
advised that Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Agents
talked to N. Battle Hales, the Staff Assistant, Office of
State and County Operations, Agricultural Stabilization and
Conservation Service (ASCS), United States Department of
Agriculture (USDA), on the afternoon of April 18, 1962.
This is incorrect. Agents first talked to Hales on the
morning of April 19, 1962. 2 -

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On page seven, [redacted] stated that he had indicated
on the evening of April 19, 1962, that Hales had been
"transferred out" of his job with the Office of State and
County Operations, ASCS. This statement is incorrect.
[redacted] did not indicate on April 19, 1962, that Hales was
to be "transferred out." It is pointed out that Agents
would not have returned on April 20, 1962, to have Hales
sign a sworn statement that had been prepared had it been
known that he would be locked out of his office.

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On page eleven of the transcript, Horace Godfrey,
Administrator, ASCS, made the statement that W. H. Duggan,
Chief, Investigations Division, ASCS, had furnished a
memorandum to Agents of the FBI on April 20, 1962, concern-
ing a meeting held on November 14, 1961, by the ASCS. This
statement is false. No memorandum was received by or
offered to Special Agents of the FBI by Duggan. It is
pointed out that Duggan refused to be interviewed under oath
and declined to furnish a copy of the investigation involving
Billie Sol Estes' "Pooled Cotton Allotment," as the case
had been referred to the United States Department of Justice.

On page eighteen of the transcript, Hales stated
that the interview conducted with him on April 19, 1962,
lasted from 10:30 a.m. until 3:30 in the afternoon at which

29-28704-437
ENCLOSURE

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

time the "FBI Agents had to leave the office." The interview with Hales was not continuous and a lunch period was observed. It is also pointed out that the statement that the Agents had to leave the office is incorrect. The interview had been completed and it was mutually agreed that the Agents would incorporate the information furnished by Hales in a signed statement and contact him the following day in his office at which time he could correct, approve and sign the statement.

On page twenty-three of the transcript, Hales, in reading the statement that he furnished to Agents of the FBI on April 30, 1962, commented concerning a sentence in the statement, "That's the exact statement as it appeared in the FBI affidavit." On page twenty-four of the transcript, Hales admitted upon questioning that it was his statement. On page twenty-four of the transcript, Hales stated that the FBI had the information for the statement in the Washington Office for about four days.

It is pointed out that the statement dated April 30, 1962, which is referred to by Hales, is the signed sworn statement voluntarily furnished by Hales containing administrative data, which fact was called to his attention and which statement was drawn up at his insistence. It is further pointed out that the information that Hales wished to incorporate in this signed statement containing administrative data was not completely factual, and numerous corrections were necessary in order to set out the complete correct chain of events as they occurred.

Concerning the fact that Hales alleges that the information contained in his statement of April 30, 1962, was in the Washington Office of the FBI for four days, it is pointed out that the interview with Hales on Thursday, April 26, 1962, occurred in the afternoon and, following the interview, Agents advised him that they would have this information typed in statement form which was agreed to by Hales, and was to be returned to him the next day. Hales then stated that he hoped to be off from work on the afternoon of Friday, April 27, 1962, and, therefore, an appointment was made to see him on Monday, April 30, 1962.

It is pointed out that Hales furnished to Special Agents of the FBI two signed statements under oath on April 26,

RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

1962, and April 30, 1962. Considerable time was spent in interviews with Hales and in the preparation of the above-mentioned signed statements. After the statements were prepared they were returned to Hales for his review, corrections and signature and he had every opportunity to add, correct or delete any information contained in these statements. He did make corrections and additions to these statements. It is further pointed out that Hales was interviewed under oath on both occasions, was advised that the information he was furnishing was voluntary on his part, and that he did not have to make the statements.

This document contains neither
recommendations nor conclusions of
the FBI. It is the property of
the FBI and is loaned to your agency;
it and its contents are not to be
distributed outside your agency.

Memorandum

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation DATE: MAY 10 1962

FROM : Herbert J. Miller, Jr., Assistant Attorney
General, Criminal DivisionHJM:EJL:lr r
29-76-334SUBJECT: Billie Sol Estes
Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property -
Bribery

In connection with the expanding scope of the investigation in this case, particularly the area of Billie Sol Estes' financial arrangements with Commercial Solvents Corporation, it is respectfully requested that your Bureau make available on a consulting basis to Department personnel considering this matter someone familiar with accounting technique and scheduling.

29-28704-423

REC-106

MAY 18 1962

EXP. PROC.

MAY 10 1962

Memo R 5-11-62
TWC
31
MAY 11 1962

Memorandum

TO : Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE:

FROM : *HJM* Herbert J. Miller, Jr., Assistant Attorney,
General, Criminal Division

HJM:EJL:kes
29-76-334

9/11
SUBJECT: Billie Sol Estes
Interstate Transportation of Stolen Property;
Bribery, Conspiracy, Fraud Against the Government;
Conflict of Interest.

This will refer to your letterhead memorandum of May 16, 1962 concerning the "Washington Project".

With regard to the information contained in that memorandum, it is requested that an investigation be conducted to determine the available facts surrounding the three checks of \$40,876.14, \$64,139.00 and \$40,000 drawn to the order of the First National Bank, Pecos, Texas on January 16, 1962 by Billie Sol Estes through [redacted]

[redacted] In the course of this investigation, we would like to request that the following points be specifically covered:

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1. Information and any available documentation concerning the source and basis (the nature of the transaction involved) of the drafts to Associates Investment Company; Lubbock, Texas; Commercial Credit Corporation; Baltimore, Maryland, and Commercial Solvents Corporation, New York, New York.
2. A history of the endorsements on these drafts including the facts occasioning such enforsements.
3. Information and any available documentation concerning receipt of these drafts by the three companies mentioned together with information concerning the basis for such receipt; i.e., the nature of the transactions covered by the drafts.

REC-48

22-27704-424

EX-105

5 MAY 18 1962

*1 cc EP
by 5-16-62
TWC:ime*

53 MAY 22 1962

3-16-62

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAGE DALLAS
EL PASO
MEMPHIS
SAN ANTONIO
SEATTLE
WASHINGTON FIELD

FROM DIRECTOR, FBI

BILLIE COL ESTES, ITSP - BRIBERY

RE EL PASO TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND SAC, DALLAS, MAY SEVEN-
TEEN LAST.

INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED EL PASO OFFICE FROM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ESTES, THAT "WASHINGTON PROJECT" WAS
HOUSING VENTURE INVOLVING PURCHASE, REMOVAL AND REFINISHING OF
NUMEROUS HOUSES IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, AREA DURING MIDDLE ONE NINE
FIVE O'S. ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN PROJECT WITH ESTES WERE FRANK
CLIMENTS, DICKSON, TENNESSEE, [REDACTED] TEXAS, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] TEXAS, [REDACTED] WASHINGTON.

ALLEGEDLY [REDACTED] HAS ESTES [REDACTED] WASHINGTON,
AT ONE TIME, [REDACTED] TEXAS,

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE. IMMEDIATELY LOCATE AND INTERVIEW INDIVIDUALS
REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ACTIVE WITH ESTES CONCERNING THEIR INVOLVEMENT

IN PROJECT AND ASSOCIATION WITH ESTES.

DJG:Jak

(14) jpl

EX-114
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE

9 MAY 18 1962

MAIL ROOM ☐

TELETYPE UNIT ☐

57 MAY 21 1962

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REC-3329-28704-425

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

TELETYPE TO SACS DALLAS, EL PASO, MEMPHIS, SAN ANTONIO, SEATTLE, WFO

RE: BILLIE SOL ROSTER

MEMPHIS OFFICE BE ALERT TO DETERMINE IF CLARENCE IS FORMER GOVERNOR
OF TENNESSEE. SEATTLE OFFICE IN CONNECTION WITH OUR INVESTIGATION

RELATIVE TO "WASHINGTON PROJECT" ASCERTAIN IF [REDACTED]

REFERRED TO BY [REDACTED] IS LOCATED IN SEATTLE DIVISION. SUTEL

MAY ONE NIGHT HERE RESULTS OF INTERVIEW AND FOLLOW WITH FO-THREE C

TWO TO REACH BUREAU BY MAY TWO ONE NEXT.

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b7c

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE *Alan*

10-53 PM

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE

URGENT 5-17-62 10-53 PM RAM

TO SACS DALLAS, EL PASO, MEMPHIS, SAN ANTONIO, SEATTLE & WASHINGTON FIELD

FROM DIRECTOR 2 P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ITSP - BRIBERY.

RE EL PASO TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND SAC, DALLAS, MAY SEVENTEEN LAST.

INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED EL PASO OFFICE FROM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ESTES, THAT "WASHINGTON PROJECT" WAS HOUSING VENTURE INVOLVING PURCHASE, REMOVAL AND REFINISHING OF NUMEROUS HOUSES IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, AREA DURING MIDDLE ONE NINE FIVE O/S. ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN PROJECT WITH ESTES WERE FRANK CLEMENTS, DICKSON, TENNESSEE, [REDACTED] TEXAS, [REDACTED] TEXAS, AND [REDACTED] WASHINGTON. ALLEGEDLY [REDACTED] ESTES [REDACTED] WASHINGTON, AT ONE TIME. [REDACTED] REPORT-EDLY IS [REDACTED] TEXAS, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

IMMEDIATELY LOCATE AND INTERVIEW INDIVIDUALS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ACTIVE WITH ESTES CONCERNING THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECT AND ASSOCIATION WITH ESTES.

END PAGE ONE

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MEMPHIS OFFICE BE ALERT TO DETERMINE IF CLEMENTS IS FORMER GOVERNOR
OF TENNESSEE. SEATTLE OFFICE IN CONNECTION WITH OUR INVESTIGATION
RELATIVE TO "WASHINGTON PROJECT" ASCERTAIN IF [REDACTED] REFER-
RED TO B [REDACTED] IS LOCATED IN SEATTLE DIVISION. SUTEL MAY ONE EIGHT
NEXT, RESULTS OF INTERVIEW AND FOLLOW WITH FD-THREE O TWOS TO REACH
BUREAU BY MAY TWO ONE NEXT.

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b7c

END & ACK PLS

EP OK FBI EP RAR

ME OK FBI ME KGF

SA OK FBI SA JWD

SE OK FBI SE GLC

TU DISC

W

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE

URGENT 5-17-62 10-52 PM RAM

TO SACS DALLAS, EL PASO, MEMPHIS, SAN ANTONIO, SEATTLE & WASHINGTON FIELD

FROM DIRECTOR 2 P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ITSP - BRIBERY.

RE EL PASO TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR AND SAC, DALLAS, MAY SEVENTEEN LAST.

INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED EL PASO OFFICE FROM [REDACTED]

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b7c

[REDACTED] FOR ESTES, THAT "WASHINGTON PROJECT" WAS HOUSING VENTURE INVOLVING PURCHASE, REMOVAL AND REFINISHING OF NUMEROUS HOUSES IN SPOKANE, WASHINGTON, AREA DURING MIDDLE ONE NINE FIVE O/S. ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN PROJECT WITH ESTES WERE FRANK CLEMENTS, DICKSON, TENNESSEE [REDACTED] TEXAS, [REDACTED] TEXAS, [REDACTED] WASHINGTON. ALLEGEDLY [REDACTED] ESTES [REDACTED] WASHINGTON, AT ONE TIME. [REDACTED] REPORT- [REDACTED] TEXAS, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

IMMEDIATELY LOCATE AND INTERVIEW INDIVIDUALS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN ACTIVE WITH ESTES CONCERNING THEIR INVOLVEMENT IN PROJECT AND ASSOCIATION WITH ESTES.

END PAGE ONE

MEMPHIS OFFICE BE ALERT TO DETERMINE IF CLEMENTS IS FORMER GOVERNOR
OF TENNESSEE. SEATTLE OFFICE IN CONNECTION WITH OUR INVESTIGATION
RELATIVE TO "WASHINGTON PROJECT" ASCERTAIN IF [REDACTED] REFER-
RED TO BY [REDACTED] IS LOCATED IN SEATTLE DIVISION. SUTEL MAY ONE EIGHT
NEXT, RESULTS OF INTERVIEW AND FOLLOW WITH FD-THREE O TWOS TO REACH
BUREAU BY MAY TWO ONE NEXT.

END & ACK PLS

DL OK FBI DL FLL

TU DISC

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b7c

MAY 17, 1962

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

REC-33 29-28704-426

TO SAC'S, WFO
DALLAS
EL PASO
INDIANAPOLIS
MINNEAPOLIS
NEW YORK
RICHMOND
FROM DIRECTOR, FBI
RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, AKA,
ITSP; BRIBERY; COI

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962
TELETYPE

FOLLOWING REQUEST RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR
ADDITIONAL INVESTIGATION CAPTIONED MATTER AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE (A) INTERVIEW

CONGRESSMAN EDMONDSON [REDACTED] TO DETERMINE ANY AND ALL
CONTACTS AND RELATIONS WITH BILLIE SOL ESTES AND/OR HIS
ENTERPRISES.

(B) CONTACT THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION AND
OBTAIN RECORDS, IF ANY, REGARDING ANY AND ALL PLANE TRIPS,
PASSENGER MANIFESTS, OR OTHER TRANSACTIONS OF BILLIE SOL ESTES
DURING THE PERIOD FROM NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT TO PRESENT.

(C) INTERVIEW THE OFFICIALS OF THE FOLLOWING FINANCE
COMPANIES WHO HAD ANY TRANSACTIONS WITH BILLIE SOL ESTES OR HIS
INTERESTS TO DETERMINE THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF SUCH TRANSACTIONS

FDE:imc
(6)

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Trotter _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

53 MAY 22 1962

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b7c

PAGE TWO

SAC, WFO, DL, EP, IP, MP, NY
RE: BILLIE SOL ESTES

INCLUDING ANY KNOWLEDGE THEY MAY HAVE OF STATEMENTS BY ESTES OR OTHERS REGARDING ESTES' ALLEGED INFLUENCE WITH THE U. S. GOVERNMENT.

ONE. ~~X~~ CAPROCK INVESTMENT, LUBBOCK, TEXAS.

TWO. ~~X~~ HUMPHRIES INVESTMENT, WEST TEXAS.

THREE. ~~X~~ KUYKENDALL INVESTMENT CO., LUBBOCK, TEXAS.

FOUR. ~~X~~ ASSOCIATES INVESTMENTS, SOUTH BEND, IND.

FIVE. ~~X~~ TALCOTT, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

SIX. ~~X~~ SOUTHWESTERN INVESTMENT, AMARILLO, TEXAS.

SEVEN. ~~X~~ D & M INVESTMENTS, WEST TEXAS.

IT IS NOTED THAT THE FOLLOWING FINANCE COMPANIES HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN CONTACTED: HELLER COMPANY, C.I.T. CORP., PACIFIC FINANCE COMPANY, COMMERCIAL CREDIT CORP., AND PIONEER FINANCE COMPANY.

(D) INTERVIEW THE OFFICIALS OF COMMERCIAL SOLVENTS CORPORATION WHO HAD ANY TRANSACTIONS WITH BILLIE SOL ESTES OR HIS INTERESTS TO DETERMINE THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF SUCH TRANSACTIONS INCLUDING ANY KNOWLEDGE THEY MAY HAVE OF STATEMENTS BY ESTES OR OTHERS REGARDING ESTES' ALLEGED INFLUENCE WITH THE U. S. GOVERNMENT.

ALL OFFICES IMMEDIATELY HANDLE AND SUTEL MAY EIGHTEEN, FOLLOWED BY FD THREE ZERO TWO'S SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION TO REACH THE BUREAU BY MAY TWENTYONE.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962
TELETYPE

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962
TELETYPE *nh*

URGENT 5-17-62 6-57 PM NH

TO SACS WASHINGTON FIELD, DALLAS, EL PASO, INDIANAPOLIS,
MINNEAPOLIS, NEW YORK, & RICHMOND
FROM DIRECTOR 2 P

RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, AKA, ITSP, BRIBERY, COI.

FOLLOWING REQUEST RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR ADDITIONAL
INVESTIGATION CAPTIONED MATTER AS FOLLOWS....

QUOTE /A/ INTERVIEW [REDACTED] CONGRESSMAN
EDMONDSON, [REDACTED] TO DETERMINE ANY AND ALL CONTACTS AND
RELATIONS WITH BILLIE SOL ESTES AND/OR HIS ENTERPRISES.

b6
b7c

/B/ CONTACT THE FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION AND OBTAIN
RECORDS, IF ANY, REGARDING ANY AND ALL PLANE TRIPS, PASSENGER MANI-
FESTS, OR OTHER TRANSACTIONS OF BILLIE SOL ESTES DURING THE PERIOD
FROM NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT TO PRESENT.

/C/ INTERVIEW THE OFFICIALS OF THE FOLLOWING FINANCE COMPANIES
WHO HAD ANY TRANSACTIONS WITH BILLIE SOL ESTES OR HIS INTERESTS TO
DETERMINE THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF SUCH TRANSACTIONS INCLUDING ANY
KNOWLEDGE THEY MAY HAVE OF STATEMENTS BY ESTES OR OTHERS REGARDING
ESTES- ALLEGED INFLUENCE WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

ONE. CAPROCK INVESTMENT, LUBBOCK, TEXAS.

TWO. HUMPHRIES INVESTMENT, WEST TEXAS.

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

THREE. KUYKENDALL INVESTMENT CO., LUBBOCK, TEXAS.

FOUR. ASSOCIATES INVESTMENTS, SOUTH BEND, IND.

FIVE. TALCOTT, MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA.

SIX. SOUTHWESTERN INVESTMENT, AMARILLO, TEXAS.

SEVEN. D & M INVESTMENTS, WEST TEXAS.

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/D/ INTERVIEW THE OFFICIALS OF COMMERCIAL SOLVENTS CORPORATION WHO HAD ANY TRANSACTIONS WITH BILLIE SOL ESTES OR HIS INTERESTS TO DETERMINE THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF SUCH TRANSACTIONS INCLUDING ANY KNOWLEDGE THEY MAY HAVE OF STATEMENTS BY ESTES OR OTHERS REGARDING ESTES- ALLEGED INFLUENCE WITH THE U.S. GOVERNMENT.

ALL OFFICES IMMEDIATELY HANDLE AND SUTEL MAY EIGHTEEN, FOLLOWED BY FD THREE ZERO TWO/S SUITABLE FOR DISSEMINATION TO REACH THE BUREAU BY MAY TWENTYONE.

END & ACK PLS

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MP OK FBI MP RJL

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE *ml*

URGENT 5-17-62 5 6-50 PM NH

TO SACS WASHINGTON FIELD, DALLAS, EL PASO, INDIANAPOLIS,
MINNEAPOLIS, NEW YORK, & RICHMOND
FROM DIRECTOR 2 P

RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, AKA, ITSP, BRIBERY, COI.

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ONE. CAPROCK INVESTMENT, LUBBOCK, TEXAS.

TWO. HUMPHRIES INVESTMENT, WEST TEXAS.

END PAGE ONE

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b7c

PAGE TWO

THREE. KUYKENDALL INVESTMENT CO., LUBBOCK, TEXAS.

FOUR. ASSOCIATES INVESTMENTS, SOUTH BEND, IND.

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END & ACK PLS

CORR LINE 8 WORD ONE IS COMPANY

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE *ml*

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GENT 5-17-62

6-40 PM NH

TO SACS WASHINGTON FIELD, DALLAS, EL PASO, INDIANAPOLIS,
MINNEAPOLIS, NEW YORK, /9/ & RICHMOND
FROM DIRECTOR 2 P

RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, AKA, ITSP, BRIBERY, COI.
FOLLOWING REQUEST RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR ADDITIONAL
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TWO. HUMPHRIES INVESTMENT, WEST TEXAS.

END PAGE ONE

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PAGE TWO

THREE. KUYKENDALL INVESTMENT CO., ^{3 55 1 1}~~47 88 8 2~~, TEXAS.

FOUR. ASSOCIATES INVESTMENTS, SOUTH BEND, IND.

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END & ACK PLS

CORR PAGE TWO LINE ONE WORD 5 LUBBOCK

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962
TELETYPE

URGENT 5-17-62 6-30 PM NH

TO SACS WASHINGTON FIELD, DALLAS, EL PASO, INDIANAPOLIS,
MINNEAPOLIS, NEW YORK, & RICHMOND
FROM DIRECTOR 2 P

RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, AKA, ITSP, BRIBERY, COI.

FOLLOWING REQUEST RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR ADDITIONAL
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END & ACK PLS HOLD FOR ONE MORE

OK FBI DL EEA

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE *ram*

URGENT 5-17-62 5-53 PM RAM

TO SACS WASHINGTON FIELD, DALLAS, EL PASO, INDIANAPOLIS,
MINNEAPOLIS, NEW YORK, & RICHMOND
FROM DIRECTOR 2 P

RE BILLIE SOL ESTES, AKA, ITSP, BRIBERY, COI.

FOLOWING REQUEST RECEIVED FROM THE DEPARTMENT FOR ADDITIONAL
INVESTIGATION CAPTIONED MATTER AS FOLLOWS....

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b7c

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TWO. HUMPHRIES INVESTMENT, WEST TEXAS.

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

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END & ACK PLS

EP OK FBI EP IJP

TU DISC

Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

May 16 1962

Herbert J. Miller, Jr., Assistant Attorney
General, Criminal Division

HJM:RDM:JB:kes
29-76-334

Billie Sol Estes

In line with the continuing investigation of the above matter it is requested that the following investigation be conducted:

- a) Interview [redacted] ^{W O S h. DC} Congressman Edmondson [redacted] to determine any and all contacts and relations with Billie Sol Estes and/or his enterprises.
- b) Contact the Federal Aviation Administration and obtain records, if any, regarding any and all plane trips, passenger manifests, or other transactions of Billie Sol Estes during the period from 1958 to present.
- c) Interview the officials of the following finance companies who had any transactions with Billie Sol Estes or his interests to determine the nature and extent of such transactions including any knowledge they may have of statements by Estes or others regarding Estes' alleged influence with the U.S. Government.

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1. Caprock Investment, Lubbock, Texas ^{DALLAS}
2. Humphries Investment, West Texas
3. Kuykendall Investment Co., Lubbock, Texas ^{Dallas}
4. Associates Investments, South Bend, Ind. ^{Ind}
5. Talcott, Minneapolis, Minnesota ^{Minneapolis}
6. Southwestern Investment, Amarillo, Texas ^{Dallas}
7. D & M Investments, West Texas ^{DALLAS}

It is noted that the following finance companies have previously been contacted: Heller Company, C.I.T. Corp., Pacific Finance Company, Commercial Credit Corp., and Pioneer Finance Company.

Investigation being ordered.

EX-114

REC-332 9-28704-424

MAY 21 1962

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DL, ER, IP, MP, NY
5-17-62
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[Signature]

- d) Interview the officials of Commercial Solvents Corporation who had any transactions with Billie Sol Estes or his interests to determine the nature and extent of such transactions including any knowledge they may have of statements by Estes or others regarding Estes' alleged influence with the U. S. Government.

5/17/62

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SACS DALLAS
EL PASO

FROM DIRECTOR FBI (29-28704)

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL. BRIBERY; COI.

RE PREVIOUS COMMUNICATIONS THIS CASE. DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED FULL INVESTIGATION OF ALL LONG-DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALLS CHARGED TO ESTES DURING THE PERIOD NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT TO PRESENT. EL PASO IMMEDIATELY OBTAIN DATA ON ESTES' BUSINESS PHONES, BOTH LISTED AND UNLISTED, RESIDENCE PHONES AND TELEPHONE CREDIT CARDS FOR ALL LONG-DISTANCE CALLS MADE FROM THE BEGINNING OF NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT TO THE PRESENT. SET OUT TELETYPE LEADS TO IDENTIFY SUBSCRIBERS OF ALL NUMBERS CALLED AND ALL INDIVIDUALS CALLING ESTES LONG-DISTANCE. SUTEL MAY EIGHTEEN, NEXT. INSTRUCT AUXILIARY OFFICES TO SUTEL BUREAU IDENTITIES OF ABOVE PERSONS BY TELETYPE NO LATER THAN MAY TWENTYONE, NEXT. EL PASO SUBMIT LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM REFLECTING ADDITIONAL LONG-DISTANCE CALLS AS SET OUT ABOVE TO REACH BUREAU BY MAY TWENTYTWO, NEXT. EXPEDITE.

REC- 58

29-28704-427

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE

NOTE:

We have completed our review of Estes' telephone calls from January 1, 1961, to April 30, 1962, both for his home and resident phones, including his two telephone credit cards. Request received from Department for full investigation of all long-distance telephone calls charged to Estes' telephone credit cards during period 1958 to present.

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☐

Tolson _____
Belmont _____
Mohr _____
Callahan _____
Conrad _____
DeLoach _____
Evans _____
Malone _____
Rosen _____
Sullivan _____
Tavel _____
Tele. Room _____
Holmes _____
Gandy _____

JOK: kak
(5)

57 MAY 21 1962

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962 *MLL*

TELETYPE

URGENT 5-17-62 7-45 PM MLL

TO SACS DALLAS AND EL PASO

FROM DIRECTOR /29-28704/ 1 P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL. BIRBERY, COI.

RE PREVIOUS COMMUNICATIONS THIS CASE. DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED FULL INVESTIGATION OF ALL LONG-DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALLS CHARGED TO ESTES DURING THE PERIOD NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT TO PRESENT. EL PASO IMMEDIATELY OBTAIN DATA ON ESTES- BUSINESS PHONES, BOTH LISTED AND UNLISTED, RESIDENCE PHONES AND TELEPHONE CREDIT CARDS FOR ALL LONG-DISTANCE CALLS MADE FROM THE BEGINNING OF NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT TO THE PRESENT. SET OUT TELETYPE LEADS TO IDENTIFY SUBSCRIBERS OF ALL NUMBERS CALLED AND ALL INDIVIDUALS CALLING ESTES LONG-DISTANCE. SUTEL MAY EIGHTEEN, NEXT. INSTRUCT AUXILIARY OFFICES TO SUTEL BUREAU IDENTITIES OF ABOVE PERSONS BY TELETYPE NO LATER THAN MAY TWENTYONE, NEXT. EL PASO SUBMIT LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM REFLECTING ADDITIONAL LONG-DISTANCE CALLS AS SET OUT ABOVE TO REACH BUREAU BY MAY TWENTYTHREE, NEXT. EXPEDITE.

END PLS ACK

OK FBI EP IJP

TU DISCO

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962
TELETYPE

URGENT 5-17-62 5-26 PM MSL

TO SACS DALLAS AND EL PASO

FROM DIRECTOR /29-28704/ 1 P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ET AL. BIRBERY, COI.

RE PREVIOUS COMMUNICATIONS THIS CASE. DEPARTMENT HAS REQUESTED FULL INVESTIGATION OF ALL LONG-DISTANCE TELEPHONE CALLS CHARGED TO ESTES DURING THE PERIOD NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT TO PRESENT. EL PASO IMMEDIATELY OBTAIN DATA ON ESTES- BUSINESS PHONES, BOTH LISTED AND UNLISTED, RESIDENCE PHONES AND TELEPHONE CREDIT CARDS FOR ALL LONG-DISTANCE CALLS MADE FROM THE BEGINNING OF NINETEEN FIFTYEIGHT TO THE PRESENT. SET OUT TELETYPE LEADS TO IDENTIFY SUBSCRIBERS OF ALL NUMBERS CALLED AND ALL INDIVIDUALS CALLING ESTES LONG-DISTANCE. SUTEL MAY EIGHTEEN, NEXT. INSTRUCT AUXILIARY OFFICES TO SUTEL BUREAU IDENTITIES OF ABOVE PERSONS BY TELETYPE NO LATER THAN MAY TWENTYONE, NEXT. EL PASO SUBMIT LETTERHEAD MEMORANDUM REFLECTING ADDITIONAL LONG-DISTANCE CALLS AS SET OUT ABOVE TO REACH BUREAU BY MAY TWENTYTHREE, NEXT. EXPEDITE.

END PLS ACK AND HOLD

OK FBI DL EEA

5/17/62

PLAIN TEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO SAC LOS ANGELES

FROM DIRECTOR FBI

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ITSP DASH BRIBERY.

IF NOT ALREADY HANDLED, LOS ANGELES SHOULD CHECK THE CREDIT CARD OF BILLIE SOL ESTES WITH THE CONRAD HILTON HOTEL IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHAT CREDIT CHARGES HAVE BEEN MADE TO THAT ACCOUNT.

SUTEL RESULTS TO BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES. COPIES SENT TO DALLAS AND EL PASO AND WASHINGTON FIELD AIRMAIL.

- 1 - Dallas (AM)
- 1 - El Paso (AM)
- 2 - Washington Field (ESM)

REC- 58

WBW:jlt
(7)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962
TELETYPE

MAIL ROOM ☐ TELETYPE UNIT ☒

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAY 17 1962

TELETYPE

URGENT 5-17-62 9-06 PM NH
TO SAC LOS ANGELES WASHINGTON FIELD
FROM DIRECTOR 1 P

BILLIE SOL ESTES, ITSP DASH BRIBERY.

IF NOT ALREADY HANDLED, LOS ANGELES SHOULD CHECK THE
CREDIT CARD OF BILLIE SOL ESTES WITH THE CONRAD HILTON HOTEL
IN AN EFFORT TO DETERMINE WHAT CREDIT CHARGES HAVE BEEN
MADE TO THAT ACCOUNT.

SUTEL RESULTS TO BUREAU AND INTERESTED OFFICES. COPIES
SENT TO DALLAS AND EL PASO AND WASHINGTON FIELD AIRMAIL.

ENDACK PLS

OK FBI LA DF

TU

Mr. Herbert J. Miller, Jr.
Assistant Attorney General
Director, FBI

May 16, 1962

**BILLIE SOL ESTES
INTERSTATE TRANSPORTATION OF
STOLEN PROPERTY - BRIBERY**

This is with reference to a request made by [redacted] of the Department of Justice for a check of all bank accounts of Estes or in the name of his known enterprises. Due to the large number of banks involved, consideration was given to proceeding by contacting the receiver handling Estes' affairs. Since there was a legal problem in the use of this procedure, the Department took the matter under consideration.

This is to confirm the Department ruling as telephonically supplied to Special Agent Thomas W. Curran, on May 15, 1962, by [redacted] of the Department. The Department has ruled that access to the records of the receiver can be had legally. [redacted] advised that the United States Attorney should inform the court that we plan to review the receiver's records as to Estes and his transactions.

Our examination will be directed toward developing information regarding (1) large withdrawals or unusual transactions in connection with Estes' banking records, and (2) an inspection of his financial statements and other documents filed by Estes with the Department of Agriculture with a view toward determining their correctness or falsity.

During the same conversation, [redacted] requested that an attempt be made to reinterview Estes. He advised that this should be handled through Estes' attorney and it should be pointed out that the questions directed to Estes would be concerning matters other than those for which he was indicted. It was also pointed out that Estes should be interviewed in the presence of his attorney if necessary.

Attorney Hume Cofer of Austin, Texas, who represents Estes, has advised today that the question of an interview with Estes had been thoroughly considered by his law firm, and they had decided not to allow an interview with Estes on any subjects.

1-Mr. DeLoach REC-58

1-Mr. Evans

TWC:lmc:jh

(10)

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

57 MAY 21 1962

REC'D-READING ROOM

MAY 16 4 42 PM '62

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b7C

b6
b7C

b6
b7C

RECEIVED-DELOACH

19 MAY 18 1962